

Submitter: Becca Hill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, Members of the Committee:

My name is Becca, and I am writing to express support for House Bill 2002, Reproductive Health and Access to Care, which will help create a future in which everyone in Oregon has the ability to make decisions about their own bodies and access the full range of reproductive, sexual, and gender affirming health care.

As a trans person who can become pregnant, and who volunteers for an abortion fund hotline in the PNW, it has been a horrifying experience to watch as legal rights to abortion and gender affirming care have been stripped in state legislature after state legislature. Healthcare is a human right, including the full range of sexual and reproductive health care. HB 2002 is an opportunity for the legislature to show leadership and solidarity during a time when the most marginalized in our communities are being used as scapegoats across the country-- being punished for just trying to live in their own bodies with dignity and self-determination.

This state has long valued the right to choose when and whether to start a family and the right to bodily autonomy. These values, based in respect and humanity, are critical now more than ever-- not only to protect Oregonians, but to maintain a refuge for those who are forced to leave their homes to get the healthcare they need and deserve, like people from my birth state of Texas. Even within Oregon, many marginalized people already face serious barriers to accessing care because of geography, income, or insurance coverage. This bill is an important step towards filling access gaps that plague our rural communities, communities of color, and low income community members.

So many people are looking to the members of this committee in this moment. We need your leadership, your compassion, and your dedication to the people you represent. As someone who wants to plan my family on the timeline that works best for me, as someone who will continue to need access to gender affirming care to live in a way that honors who I am: I need your solidarity. I need you to recognize my humanity, to recognize the dire need to protect our rights to our own bodies, and to expand access to life saving and life affirming healthcare.

This is why I urge your yes vote on HB 2002. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Becca H.