

Submitter: Sami Al-Abdrabbuh

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:

I am Dr. Sami Al-Abdrabbuh from Corvallis, and I am honored to speak to you today in support of House Bill 2002. As a member of a Board of Education, I have listened to the stories of community members who are in dire need of affordable and accessible gender-affirming care and reproductive health services. Passing this bill in my view will make a significant difference in their lives, and I urge you to consider advancing it.

As a member of my local school board, I have worked tirelessly with my colleagues to protect students from discrimination based on their gender identity through a flagship district-wide policy. While we have made progress, I realize that many trans and nonbinary students still face challenges accessing life-saving healthcare services and feeling supported in the public sphere. House Bill 2002 would help close the gaps in insurance coverage for gender-affirming care, contraception access, and reproductive health services, which is crucial for the wellbeing of our youth and community members.

I believe that everyone deserves to feel loved, accepted, and supported in being their authentic selves. To achieve this vision, we must ensure that all Oregonians have access to the full spectrum of reproductive care and protection from criminal and civil liability for supporting or providing legal reproductive and gender-affirming care.

I respectfully urge you to support House Bill 2002.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sami Al-Abdrabbuh