

Submitter: Charlie Krouse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

DATE: March 20, 2023

TO: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

FROM: Charlie Krouse

RE: Support HB 2002

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

My name is Charlie Krouse and I am writing to express support for House Bill 2002, Reproductive Health and Access to Care. HB 2002 works to create a future where everyone has bodily autonomy in the state of Oregon. This bill gives Oregonians the ability to make important decisions regarding their own bodies and access to the full range of reproductive, sexual, and gender-affirming health care.

I believe that healthcare is a human right and that the access to make decisions on your own healthcare is a basic human right. Oregon voters have made it repeatedly clear that the access to safe and accessible reproductive care is fundamental. This state has long valued the importance of access to safe reproductive care.

As the rise of extremism takes over our country, more and more LGBTQIA lives are being put in jeopardy, with more than 300 bills attacking LGBTQIA people already introduced in 2023 alone. As trans lives keep being put under attack, Oregon has the opportunity to stand as a leader in access to safe and equitable gender-affirming healthcare.

HB 2002 centers those who face the most barriers to accessing care in policy-making and resourcing. The recommendations from Speaker Rayfield's Reproductive Health and Access to Care Work Group were developed with impacted communities, providers, and organizations working on the ground to meet this moment.

We have the opportunity to advocate for the rights and lives of our community members in this state. It is our chance to be on the right side of history and work to instill critical protections that allow Oregonians the ability to make choices that are best for their own health and lives.

I urge you to vote in support of HB 2002.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Charlie Krouse
they/them/theirs
Portland, OR