

March 20, 2023

Delivered orally

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin & Nelson, and committee members:

Interim Chief Executive Officer
Emily Gilliland

Board of Directors

President Miguel Villarreal Kaiser Permanente

Vice President Kris Young Nike

Secretary William E. Spigner

Treasurer Edwin Kietzman Pacific Seafood Group

At Large Daniel Borgen New Seasons Market

At Large Natalia Williams Bayside Communities

Tracy A. Curtis Wells Fargo Bank

Eric Garcia Multnomah County

CJ Grub R1

Daniel Guilfoyle Native American Youth & Family Center (NAYA)

Rhodes Perry Rhodes Perry Consulting, LLC

Kaydie Satein PeaceHealth of SW Washington

Jeffrey W. Woodcox Tonkon Torp LLP My name is Maeve McGarry; I'm a Family Nurse Practitioner at Prism Health. Prism is a safetynet clinic in Portland that specializes in providing affirming healthcare for transgender, nonbinary, and other LGBTQ+ people.

I am testifying on behalf of Prism and our parent organization, Cascade AIDS Project, in strong support of House Bill 2002. As a provider at a clinic where one out of every three patients is trans or non-binary, I know firsthand how vital gender-affirming care is to these patients' overall health and well-being. I also know that gaps in both private health plans and Oregon Health Plan can be a barrier to patients accessing the care they need to live safely in alignment with their gender identity. I'm excited that HB 2002 would close these gaps, helping ensure that trans and non-binary people can obtain medically necessary treatment that's in line with accepted standards of care.

In addition, I'm excited that HB 2002 would shield gender-affirming care providers like me from adverse actions by medical-malpractice insurers and licensing boards, and provide us with new tools to protect ourselves from harassment. Unfortunately, medically uncontroversial gender-affirming care has become politically controversial in recent years, making it challenging—and sometimes even frightening—for gender-affirming care providers to do our work. This legislation would provide us with greater security, so *we* can provide our patients with great care.

In conclusion, I want to express my appreciation to this Legislature's leadership for prioritizing gender-affirming care. I see every day how this care can positively transform lives, and I'm grateful to live and practice in a state that sees that too. Thank you, and thank you in advance for moving this bill forward.