

TO: House Judiciary Committee
RE: Support for HB 4088
DATE: Feb 2, 2026

Dear Chair Representative Kropf, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Wallan and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Prof. Janet Lorenzen. I live in Salem, Oregon and work at Willamette University. I'm writing in **strong support for HB 4088**.

Privacy is a bipartisan issue. We all have the right to have our private, personal health information protected when seeking health care.

The students I work with at Willamette University are worried about attacks from the Federal government on reproductive rights and LGBTQ+ health care. The next 3 years will probably be more of the same. This bill is critical in safeguarding patient privacy and ensuring that all Oregonians can receive the health care they need without fear or discrimination.

Oregonians cannot afford to wait. Oregon has a responsibility to protect its providers' ability to practice medicine and protect personally identifiable patient data and identity records.

The issue of privacy is more important than ever. Moral panics occur when one group (usually politicians) benefits from pushing an already marginalized group of people back into the shadows. The moral panic targeting trans people has eroded their health care, rights, and basic safety in many states. Currently gender marker and name change records in Oregon are public, exposing identifying information. We need to make sure trans Oregonians can access life-saving health care and update their personal records with dignity and privacy.

Other states are also taking these steps to ensure privacy.

I urge you to vote YES on HB 4088 to protect patients, providers, and privacy in Oregon. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Professor Janet Lorenzen
Salem, Oregon