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# A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

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TO: Chair Kropf, Vice-chairs Chotzen and Wallan  
Members of the House Judiciary Committee  
FR: Catie Theisen, Oregon AFL-CIO  
RE: *Support for HB 4088*

February 2, 2026

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of HB 4088 to safeguard patient privacy, protect medical providers from mounting criminalization threats, and ensure that all Oregonians can receive the health care they need without fear of discrimination or retribution.

The Oregon AFL-CIO, the statewide federation of labor unions represents over 300,000 workers across the state in every sector and corner. As such, we know that access to the full range of healthcare is fundamentally a workers' rights issue.

Further, workers – many of whom are represented by a union – *are* the care providers that deliver this critical care. Providing reproductive and LGBTQ+ health care remains legal in all states that have not expressly prohibited it via state law. However, health care systems across the country are pausing care just because of fear of criminalization in states without explicit legal protections for providers.

All Oregonians deserve to be able to access the full range of reproductive healthcare and gender affirming care. We know that the choice of whether or not to become a parent has a critical effect on the well-being of women and people who can become pregnant – not only affecting their physical health, but also their educational opportunities, job security, and economic opportunity. Thus, it's critical Oregonians can continue to access this care and providers can continue to give it without fear.

HB 4088 helps achieve this by strengthening protections against out of state actions including extraditions of non-fugitive healthcare providers or patients, expands existing licensing protections for more providers to be able to provide care, expands provider privacy protections to include more healthcare staff and the images and phone numbers for those who provide legal reproductive and general affirming care, and finally strengthens patients' private health data particularly those who make name and gender marker changes.

Fundamentally, those who need reproductive and gender affirming care are members of Oregon's workforce. These patients and many of the providers offering this care are workers. Oregon has a long history of standing up for workers rights and the bill before you is no different. Everyone deserves access to medically necessary care, free from interference, stigma, or surveillance – please support HB 4088.