

Hello Chair Kropf, Vice-Chair Wallen and Chotzen and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Elsie Elling and I am the Political & Organizing Director for Planned Parenthood Action Oregon and I am here in support of HB 4088.

Planned Parenthood Action Oregon is the c4 advocacy organization for the two Planned Parenthood affiliates, Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette and Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon, who are providing health care here in Oregon.

Together, since the Dobbs decision, the two Oregon Planned Parenthood affiliates have continued to provide abortion care to Oregonians and patients who are forced to travel here for care. Providers with Planned Parenthood come to work every day to provide compassionate, unbiased and trauma informed care for every patient that walks through their doors.

However, we have also seen the uptick in hostile attacks by the federal government and out of state actors on providers, patients and states that have protected abortion and gender affirming care access. Everyday, patients and providers are becoming more concerned for their safety to access and provide care. HB 4088 is critical in safeguarding patient privacy, protecting medical providers from mounting criminalization threats, and ensuring that all Oregonians can receive the health care they need without fear or discrimination.

PPAO is deeply concerned about the escalating federal and out-of-state threats, and we agree that Oregon has a responsibility to protect its providers' ability to practice medicine and protect personally identifiable patient data and identity records.

I urge this committee to vote yes on HB 4088.

Sincerely,

Elsie Elling
Political & Organizing Director
Planned Parenthood Action Oregon

