

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Diehl, and members of the House Healthcare Committee,

My name is Seth Johnstone, Interim Director of Policy and Research at Basic Rights Oregon. I am here today in strong support of HB4127. Planned Parenthood is a trusted health care provider for people in all 36 counties of Oregon. Patients come to Planned Parenthood to receive excellent, affordable medical care. Basic Rights Oregon knows how vital their services are for marginalized and underserved communities.

Planned parenthood not only provides reproductive healthcare but also has made strides in caring for all patients, educating their entire staff about how to care for LGBTQ+ patients and providing services where they haven't existed in rural parts of our state. The community I support often turns to Planned Parenthood because of this, knowing the discrimination they've experienced at doctors is less likely at a clinic that has made concerted efforts to effectively modify actions and their services to be accessible. For many, especially those with Medicaid or those who live in rural and medically-underserved communities, Planned Parenthood is the only place they can reliably access affordable reproductive and preventive health care.

Since July 4, the Trump administration's attacks on sexual and reproductive health care and on Planned Parenthood health centers have had a devastating impact: At least 20 health centers have been forced to close across the country, leaving thousands of patients with nowhere to turn. This effort by the federal administration to defund these healthcare entities disproportionately affects LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly in rural areas, by restricting access to HIV prevention, cancer screenings, STI testing, and other essential preventative and non-abortion health services.

Planned Parenthood here in Oregon continues to maximize care delivery, operate efficiently, and fundraise aggressively — but philanthropy is not a solution that can replace the entire Medicaid system. Oregon needs this legislative funding action.

Oregon simply cannot replace the care delivered by Planned Parenthood affiliates if its health centers were forced to close. In states that did not move to fund reproductive healthcare after Trump's actions on July 4, 2025, we're seeing immediate disruptions to care.

HB 4127 creates a clear, responsible path forward so that patients with Medicaid, and all Oregonians, will continue to have access to the affordable care they need and deserve. Thank you for considering this testimony and I urge support of this bill.