

Submitter:

Julianne Verhagen

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4088

As a woman concerned with sex-based rights and child protection, I oppose HB 4088 because of the following issues.

The bill bundles broadly supported reproductive health care for females with experimental and potentially harmful so-called gender-affirming treatments, diluting sex-based protections by prioritizing gender identity over biological reality.

Risks to Minors and Vulnerable Group: It shields irreversible interventions that have weak long-term evidence, while non-cooperation clauses could block probes into regret or harm and favor ideology over child safeguarding.

Erosion of Sex-Based Rights: Provisions easing name/sex changes in the name of privacy could undermine single-sex spaces like women's shelters, prisons, and sports by enabling unchecked legal recognition of gender identity, contributing to the erasure of sex distinctions and compelled speech concerns.

Lack of Accountability and Evidence: Provider immunities risk protecting ideologically driven care without requiring rigorous informed consent or follow-up studies.

Broader Societal Impacts: The bill may fuel medical tourism from restrictive states, strain Oregon resources, and normalize practices rooted in sexism or homophobia.

As a woman and a parent, the potential harms of this legislation are numerous and unacceptable.