

Testimony in Opposition to HB 4088

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

As a Family Physician with over 40 years of service to the people of Oregon, including women and children, I find this bill poses significant risk for health care in general and us as citizens and patients in particular. I have cared for women with unintended pregnancies, including those who chose to proceed with abortion, and for a number with gender dysphoria, some who have undergone irreversible interventions.

I would submit the following:

- HB 4088 Would place great restrictions on oversight of clinicians/ providers while shielding them for legal responsibility or liability for their actions. Recent lawsuits by “de-transitioners” are a case in point.
- I am unclear why reproductive health care and gender affirming care warrant added protections (well beyond HIPAA) as provided in this bill.
- Other professionals including surgeons or mental health counselors- and the services they offer- are not afforded immunity from out of state claims.
- HB 4088 does not expand access to the medical care covered in this bill; we as a state are already very permissive, even in situations where harm can be demonstrated from interventions covered in this proposed legislation.
- This bill does not expand care or safety; it expands legal shields for clinicians and providers of medical supplies- not patients. True protection requires oversight, safety monitoring and accountability- all limited by this proposed legislation.

Please oppose HB 5088. Thank you for your consideration.

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