

Submitter: Linda Palumbo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4088

As an attorney, a parent, and a woman who wants to protect sex-based rights, honest scientific research, and true child protection, I oppose HB 4088. This legislation unwisely bundles broadly supported reproductive health care for females with experimental and potentially harmful "gender-affirming" treatments. In this way, it dilutes sex-based protections by prioritizing gender identity over biological reality. Additionally, the bill 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. Also, 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.

I object to provider immunities that risk protecting ideologically driven care without requiring rigorous informed consent or follow-up studies. I also object to barriers to availability to important data for honest research. And I anticipate the risk that the bill will fuel medical tourism from restrictive states, strain Oregon resources, and normalize practices rooted in sexism or homophobia.