

Submitter: Penelope Hummel
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4088

As a woman worried about the erosion of sex based rights and the safety of children, I oppose HB 4088. While this bill is intended to protect the privacy of patients and providers, it is written so broadly that it would prevent ANYONE – including “private citizens” – from accessing ANY information about “Reproductive and Gender Affirming Health Care.” As I understand it, this bill applies to ANY information about these health care activities – effectively blocking public health researchers from seeking data. Even patients seeking care could be prevented from accessing information. This bill will shield 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. At this moment in time, it is critically important that the ability to evaluate the efficacy and safety of "gender affirming care" not be thwarted by the state of Oregon. Just this week, the American Society of Plastic Surgeons issued a statement opposing such surgeries for patients under age 19: <https://www.plasticsurgery.org/documents/health-policy/positions/2026-gender-surgery-children-adolescents.pdf> It is likely that other professional medical organizations will follow suit, especially given that detransitioners are successfully pursuing legal action against the doctors who performed medical interventions that are not supported by research, clinical trials, etc.

In addition, this bill lumps broadly supported reproductive health care for females with experimental and potentially harmful "gender-affirming" treatments, diluting sex-based protections by prioritizing gender identity over biological reality. This is also a serious issue.

Please vote no on HB4088. Thank you.