

Submitter:

Wendy Endress

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4088

As a woman and registered Democrat concerned with sex-based rights and child protection, I oppose HB 4088.

The bill conflates issues -- the bill bundles 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.

The bill increases risk for minors and vulnerable groups -- 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.

The bill erodes sex-based rights -- the bill includes provisions easing name/sex changes in the name of privacy which 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.

The bill lacks required accountability and evidence — the bill provides provider immunities which risk protecting ideologically driven care without requiring rigorous informed consent or follow-up studies.

The bill has broader societal impacts. The bill may fuel medical tourism from restrictive states, strain Oregon resources, and normalize practices rooted in sexism or homophobia.

Please deepen your knowledge and understanding of the risks and harms of this legislation.