



Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and members of the committee,

My name is Brooke Hill, and I am submitting testimony on behalf of Oregon AFSCME. We are a labor union of around 40,000 members advocating for workers and their families in the public and private sectors. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support for HB 4088 today.

Across our nation, we are seeing unprecedented attacks on providers of reproductive and gender affirming care. Oregonians have made it overwhelmingly clear– we support privacy in healthcare for providers and the patients they serve. Our state has a long and strong history of standing up for marginalized communities, and HB 4088 continues that tradition.

The federal administration has deliberately created a chilling effect across the country by targeting providers doing this incredibly important work. In addition, there are several out-of-state policies attempting to target reproductive and gender affirming care providers in Oregon. This is an unacceptable overreach, and one way we can fight back is to strengthen protections for this group. HB 4088 ensures protections are available to all providers who do this work in our state, and also protects them from fear of retaliation. Additionally, HB 4088 safeguards all gender affirming care and reproductive health providers in Oregon from backlash from out-of-state entities who attempt to investigate them. It also bars extradition of providers, which has been threatened a number of times by the federal administration. Explicit defenses are necessary to ensure providers feel as safe as possible, both in and out of the workplace. HB 4088 also protects individuals who are receiving care, by restricting OHA from disclosing personal information. This allows the court records of name and gender marker changes to be permanently sealed, providing peace of mind for people who go through the name change process.

Oregon AFSCME stands in unwavering solidarity with several other labor partners, community based organizations, and healthcare providers in support of HB 4088. We believe that all people deserve safety and dignity in the workplace, and should be protected from federal overreach. HB 4088 protects individuals at work and in their daily lives, allowing folks who have received care to live as their true selves without fear of retribution. Oregon is a sanctuary for people of all backgrounds, identities, and lived experiences. HB 4088 moves that mission forward.

Sincerely,
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