

Dear Chair Representative Kropf, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Wallan and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Sherri Jones. I live in Eugene, Oregon. I'm writing in strong support for HB 4088. With increasing attacks from the federal administration on reproductive rights and LGBTQ+ health care, patients are concerned for the continuity of their care and health care professionals are fearful for their safety. This bill is critical in safeguarding patient privacy, protecting medical providers from mounting criminalization threats, and ensuring that all Oregonians can receive the health care they need without fear or discrimination. The increasing number of threats in the last few years makes the need for this bill urgent. Oregonians cannot afford to wait. In Oregon, this care remains legal and providers should be able to deliver it without fear of federal intimidation or retaliation. Our community needs this bill because we know that many have fought so hard to support self-determination and bodily autonomy, whether it be for a cis-gendered woman or a transgender person. Once we allow the current administration to bully, shame and vilify our transgender family and friends, it will be these loved ones that are next to be rounded up and criminalized as the Department of Homeland Security is doing now with protesters and immigrants. As the parent and friend of transgender individuals, I know personally how cruel and degrading our federal government's rhetoric is to human beings striving to be safe and accepted in their families and community. As parents we want what is best for our children, and that includes healthcare that is accessible and healing, mentally and physically. I will quote my friends at Basic Rights Oregon here, as this is stated exactly as I feel:

- HB 4088 protects access to evidence-based health care in Oregon, including the rights of all Oregonians to make personal medical decisions with their physician, without fear or intimidation of government interference.
- As federal and out-of-state threats escalate, Oregon has a responsibility to protect its providers' ability to practice medicine and protect personally identifiable patient data and identity records. There have been over 1,000 bills in our country attacking trans, non-binary, two-spirit and intersex people. This is an extreme escalation that not only affects those individuals, it also affects their families and loved ones. I am not the only parent that is working hard to support their child. My child, thankfully, is an adult, an educated business member, who I continue to stand with and for, support and love. I hope that I am an example for other parents that Love is Love, for your child as well as for your partner. We should be legislating as an example of our care for our community, not backing down from hate and harmful rhetoric. I am a member of the Trans Alliance of Lane County, and I stand up for our trans community in Oregon. I urge you to vote YES on HB 4088 to protect all our loved ones, their privacy and safety depend on you! Thank you for your time and commitment to Oregonians, all of them. Sherri Jones