

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

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. There is so much going on in the world right now, we can't take another hit! Our community needs this bill because 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. Everyone deserves access to medically necessary care, free from interference, stigma, or surveillance. Efforts to ban health care for transgender people are connected to a larger strategy to push transgender people out of public and civic life. Transgender people are being targeted with overwhelming attacks on our/their health care, rights, and basic safety. We need to make sure trans Oregonians can access life-saving health care and update their personal records with dignity and privacy. Oregon is not the first state to take steps to ensure the privacy of identity court records. In 2025, California passed model legislation that ensures gender marker and name changes are confidential records upon filing for safety purposes. I urge you to vote YES on HB 4088 to protect patients, providers, and privacy in Oregon. Thank you for your time, service, and commitment to the people of Oregon.