

Submitter:

Beth Mossman

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1598

I have been a pediatrician in Oregon for 10 years and am writing strongly in favor of SB1598.

My pediatric colleagues around the country are facing a crisis due to declining vaccination rates. Previously eradicated diseases are returning even to Oregon as a result of declining vaccination rates.

I have a precious 4 year old in my practice who is not eligible to be vaccinated because he is on an immunosuppressive medication for Very Early Onset Inflammatory Bowel Disease. If our community sees even further decline in vaccination rates, his parents and I will live in fear for him that he might acquire these deadly diseases from individuals who made the CHOICE to not vaccinate, despite being eligible, or who wanted to be vaccinated but could not due to external barriers (such as lack of insurance coverage or access to a physician).

I myself am the mother of an infant who is too young to be vaccinated against measles. As a pediatrician, I know the dangers that would follow from her contracting the disease, and I am desperate to protect her by protecting access to vaccination for our entire community.

Please help me protect my patients and my family. Please protect coverage for lifesaving vaccines. Thank you.