

Submitter: Jennifer Brusa

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jen, and I am an Oregon resident with a background in social work. I am writing in opposition to SB 1598.

In social work, we are taught that every person has the right to self-agency. We are trained to respect individual circumstances, informed consent, and the dignity of personal choice, especially when decisions impact families and children. SB 1598 moves Oregon away from those core principles.

This bill places broad authority in the hands of unelected officials and allows for statewide medical mandates that do not account for individual needs or family circumstances. It weakens parental decision-making and limits the ability of doctors to work directly with patients in determining what is best for them.

Strong families are built when individuals are trusted to make informed decisions alongside qualified professionals. When authority is centralized and accountability is reduced, the voices of parents and families are diminished.

This is not anti-medicine. It is about preserving self-agency, informed consent, and the fundamental values that guide ethical care and healthy communities.

I respectfully urge you to oppose SB 1598.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jennifer Brusa