

Submitter: Juanita Reiter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

As a 73-year old woman who is also immunocompromised, it is incredibly important for me to receive the COVID booster ahead of the COVID season each year, just as much if not more so than the flu shots. When it was time for me to seek out my 2025-2026 booster in the fall, it took many weeks of uncertainty and stress before I knew whether I would be able to protect myself and stay healthy through the winter. In the end, due to Oregon's delay in releasing guidance to allow Oregonians access to the COVID booster, I ended up having to make arrangements for someone to take me to Vancouver, Washington. It was incredibly disappointing to have to rely on another state's commitment to access to life-saving care in order to protect myself.