

Submitter: Dawn Parker
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1598, to ensure that Oregon can issue standing orders to give Oregonians vaccine access without delay and in alignment with other members of the West Coast Health Alliance.

This fall my high-risk family travelled to Washington State to receive the 2025-26 mRNA Covid vaccine, in anticipation of the new school year.

The Oregon delay caused a lot of stress for my family. We were initially told that the COVID vaccine would be available for high risk individuals with a prescription. When our medical teams provided those prescriptions, severely understaffed Portland pharmacies could not able to track vaccine prescriptions in their systems. Even with prescriptions in their systems, Portland pharmacies refused our family vaccinations.

Out of desperation, we got vaccinated in September 2026 in Vancouver, Washington. I'm so glad we did, as my child brought home Covid from school three weeks later.

His case was mild. He did not pass it along to the rest of the family. We know vaccines played a part in that.

Thank you for supporting Oregonians and our ensuring our access to healthcare. And thank you for your time.