

Submitter: Gabriela Tanaka

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

I'm writing to support SB1598. Last year when the CDC changed the recommendations on who could obtain COVID-19 vaccines at the pharmacy it made it very difficult to obtain a vaccine that would help keep me healthy. The changes made at the Federal level required that I schedule an appointment with my primary care physician weeks in advance, take time off work, and find transportation for a simple vaccine that in the past I could have obtained at the supermarket pharmacy while doing my weekly food shopping.

The confusion created on the federal level left my neighbors and friends who wanted to get vaccinated under the impression that they could no longer get vaccinated for COVID-19.

The current unscientific changes at the Federal level to the childhood immunization schedule now leave children and the immunocompromised vulnerable to vaccine preventable disease. Oregon must stand ready to protect access to vaccines for our communities. I urge this committee to support the passing of this bill.