

Submitter:

Jennider Huffman

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1598

My name is Dr. Huffman and I am a physician who is worried about vaccine affordability and access in Oregon. I support SB1598 to ensure that Oregon families do not have additional cost or logistical barriers to obtaining preventative vaccines. This bill champions patient choice, by ensuring those who want immunizations are able to do so without having to worry about payment or making a hard to come by appointment with their primary care physician or pediatrician to undergo mandatory shared decision making.

SB1598:

- Ensures continuity of coverage. Updating Oregon's insurance code to June 30, 2025 preserves coverage for widely supported, evidence-based preventive services.
- Supports patient choice. SB 1598 does not mandate immunizations or require anyone to receive care.
- Allows Oregon to act nimbly. Standing order authority gives the state tools to respond quickly when federal guidance changes and access is at risk.
- Respects medical judgment. Providers may continue to practice according to evidence-based recommendations and their clinical expertise.
- Keeps decisions between patients and providers. SB 1598 reinforces science-based care while maintaining flexibility and trust in the clinician-patient relationship.

Thank you,

Jennifer Huffman MD