



OREGON ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

MAKING HEALTH PRIMARY

On behalf of the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP), we write in strong support of HB 4088, the Strengthening Patient and Provider Privacy Act.

OAFP represents more than 1,800 family physicians, residents, and medical students practicing in every corner of Oregon.

Family physicians are on the front lines of care for patients seeking reproductive, sexual, and gender-affirming health services. In recent years, our members have reported growing concern about escalating threats to patient privacy, misuse of personal health information, and intimidation of clinicians and health care staff. These pressures are already having real consequences: patients delaying or avoiding care, interruptions in continuity of care, and increased fear within clinical spaces.

HB 4088 is a necessary and timely response to these challenges. The bill strengthens Oregon's existing protections by reinforcing a clear firewall against out-of-state and federal actions that seek to investigate, penalize, or surveil health care that is lawful in Oregon. It ensures that medical decisions remain between patients and their health care providers, not politicians or hostile actors operating beyond our state's borders.

Importantly, HB 4088:

- Protects patients' private health data by limiting disclosure of individually identifiable information related to reproductive and gender-affirming care;
- Strengthens privacy protections for providers and the broader clinical workforce by safeguarding personal images and contact information;
- Expands professional protections so clinicians and licensed providers can practice evidence-based medicine without fear of retaliation; and



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- Enhances confidentiality for name and gender marker changes, reducing the risk of harassment, intimidation, or violence.

OAFP has long affirmed that access to health care is a human right and that clinical spaces must remain safe, confidential environments where patients can seek care without fear. Our members have witnessed firsthand how threats of surveillance, data exposure, and criminalization undermine trust and harm public health — particularly for children, families, and communities already facing barriers to care.

HB 4088 builds on Oregon’s leadership in protecting reproductive and gender-affirming health care and aligns with our responsibility to safeguard both patients and the health professionals who serve them. It does not change standards of care or accountability; rather, it ensures that lawful medical care can continue without interference, intimidation, or misuse of private information.

For these reasons, the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians respectfully urges the House Judiciary Committee to support, and move forward, HB 4088 and continue Oregon’s commitment to patient privacy, provider safety, and access to essential health care.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership on this critical issue.