

Submitter: James Bishara  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

House Committee on Health Care  
RE: Testimony in support of SB 1598

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Diehl and Nelson and Members of the Committee,  
My name is James Bishara, and I am a pediatric cardiologist and the current President of the Oregon Pediatric Society, the Oregon Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 1598, as a means of protecting access to and coverage of evidence-based preventive services. Last Fall, Oregon's pediatric providers struggled to offer vaccines as changing federal guidelines sparked confusion among patients about insurance coverage and eligibility. With a lack of clarity, providers were left at the front-line of this uncertainty, especially as they wanted to ensure their patients would not face insurmountable out-of-pocket costs.

Preventing disease is critical for our communities and our families. This bill ensures access to and coverage of preventative care and preserves choice for families who want immunizations.

This bill is an important step to ensure Oregonians have continued access to preventive care they seek for themselves and their families.

I urge you to support Senate Bill 1598 by voting yes.

Sincerely,

James A. Bishara, MD, MBA, FAAP