

Dear Chair Prozanski Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Desirée Porter Costello. I live in Portland, Oregon. I'm writing in strong support for HB 4088 A.

With increasing attacks from the federal administration on reproductive rights and LGBTQ+ health care, patients are concerned for the continuity of their care and health care professionals are fearful for their safety. This bill is critical in safeguarding patient privacy, protecting medical providers from mounting criminalization threats, and ensuring that all Oregonians can receive the health care they need without fear or discrimination. The increasing number of threats in the last few years makes the need for this bill urgent. Oregonians cannot afford to wait. In Oregon, this care remains legal and providers should be able to deliver it without fear of federal intimidation or retaliation.

I know firsthand how important reproductive and LGBTQ+ health care is because I: am queer; have needed abortion care; have dear friends who are trans themselves; and have dear friends who have trans kids.

I've witnessed barriers to accessing this care, such as providers leaving practices in other states because they are afraid to give the care they are skilled in due to dangerous laws. Now I have friends and family who can't get the care they need.

I am also a medical assistant and a former doula who has supported patients seeking life-saving care. Protections such as these are vital for caregivers and patients alike.

I urge you to vote YES on HB 4088 A to protect patients, providers, and privacy in Oregon. Thank you for your time, service, and commitment to the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,
Desirée P. Costello