

As a public health professional who worked in a federal HIV program for almost two decades, I am very supportive of this bill. There is urgent need to ensure that people who need PreExposure Prophylaxis have ample opportunities to obtain the medications. In addition to clinics, pharmacists are additional health professionals who can safely assist clients to receive a drug which can prevent another individual from contracting HIV disease.

Pharmacist-driven PrEP is a safe, innovative strategy for PrEP delivery that can increase PrEP access, particularly in more rural areas of Oregon where the closest PrEP provider may be more than a 60-minute drive in one direction. The availability of PrEP in rural communities in Oregon will be severely compromised without the ability of pharmacists provide this service.