

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

I am a lifelong Oregonian, work from home Mom in Redmond, with three young kids, and my husband and I both experience allergies every year. I recall when the prescription requirement was passed and can appreciate the intention of the original bill, but I have not seen evidence that this prescription requirement is responsible for curbing meth abuse in Oregon. I hope you help people like us, and other Oregon allergy sufferers, by passing HB 2648.

If I need a doctor's prescription, that means I am taking time away from work or have to arrange for childcare - neither of these options is convenient and causes unnecessary loss of income and cost. Then I also pay a co-pay for a medication people in other states can just buy while at the grocery store - that's convenient. Some years when my allergies are at their worst I suffer through, and limit outdoor activities, because I need to use a less effective allergy medication due to the hassle of the prescription requirement. But during COVID I can't risk any symptoms that could mean me and my family need to quarantine.

I support bringing pseudoephedrine back to behind-the-pharmacy counter status (provides access to self-care and makes dealing with colds and allergies more convenient and affordable). I oppose any form of prescription only policy.

PLEASE BRING OREGON IN LINE WITH EVERY OTHER STATE ALL OF WHICH TALLOW BEHIND-THE-PHARMACY COUNTER ACCESS TO PSEUDEPHDRINE CONTAINING MEDICATIONS WITHOUT THE NEED FOR A PRESCRIPTION.
PLEASE PASS HB 2648.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Jennifer Stephens
Redmond