

My name is Lisa Reynolds. I'm a State Representative for Oregon House District 36 and I am also a pediatrician.

I am here today to testify in support of HB 3039, which will convene a workgroup to study and solve the problem of our disjointed electronic medical record system.

I've been practicing medicine long enough to remember when patient records were kept in manila folders. If my patient was hospitalized, the hospital could not review clinic records, nor vice versa. Lab tests and Xrays were routinely repeated as the results were not available to the treating physician.

Most physicians switched over to computerized medical charts, what we now call electronic health records or EHR in the last 10-15 years and it has improved communications but has not lived up to its promise of universal access to patient information, to put all providers on the same virtual page.

And when it comes to sending patients to non-medical providers, such as Early Intervention, or nutrition services or a social worker, we still fill out paper forms and fax these to the specialist. We try to send salient printed pages from our electronic medical records, but it's by far a less complete picture than granting access to the child's health record would provide. We are still repeating assessments, just like we were back in the day of the manila folder.

House Bill 3039 seeks to fix a fixable problem, thereby saving costs and improving care for Oregonians. Please join me in supporting this bill.

Thank you.