

Submitter: Cyndi Kohfield

On Behalf Of: At risk youth

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

Testimony HB2458

Please do not pass this legislation. Do not mandate this course that RESTRICTS A CHILD's TREATMENT for mental health issues and denies them EVERY avenue of support they have a right to.

The language in this legislation is confusing if not misleading. Please consider the very recent trans clinic whistle blower, Jamie Reed in Missouri (previously employed in Washington State), who came forward just this week about negligent, disastrous clinic and therapy treatments for minors with mental health issues. The MO Attorney General (just this week, February 2023), opened an investigation into treatment of gender issues in their state. Better understandings of this issue are currently and rapidly evolving- Oregon should not prematurely move on this topic.

Also consider the recent testimonial of Chloe Cole from California; she began gender transition hormones as a teen, and quickly regretted the path as an adult after her double mastectomy; all this harm to her as a minor was under the guidance of her therapists, parents and doctors. As a still very young adult who now embraces her sex and body, she will never fully recover from the harm of narrow treatment options. Reject this legislation born of a limited understanding of a recent, sudden and contagious social phenomena spreading predominantly in youth culture.