

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony Opposing HB 2002

March 20, 2023

Chair Rob Nosse House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and Members of the Committee,

I share this written testimony regarding HB 2002, not only as the State Representative of House District 23 (representing portions of Polk and Yamhill counties), but as the mother of two children.

I once heard a saying, "children rarely need a good talking to, but ways need listened to." Being an active parent and engaged with my kids is one of the most important things I can do in life. Ensuring their needs are met to the best of my ability and guiding them to find their own identity is the role I play as a mother.

HB 2002 would remove a parent's role in their child's life by:

- Eliminating any age of consent requirements for "reproductive health care", including abortion.
- Requiring written permission from a child of any age in order for a parent to know what reproductive health services are provided by a health care provider.
- Authorizes pharmacists to provide abortion pills without regard to the age of the person.

How am I supposed to be a supportive parent if I do not know what my child is going through and or experiencing? HB 2002 removes access from parents actively engaging, protecting, and supporting their children.

I strongly oppose this bill and I ask that you consider the severe consequences HB 2002 will have on our children.

Sincerely,

Anna Scharf