

Submitter: Marcella Messerle Forbes

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

My name is Marci Messerle Forbes. I am a family nurse practitioner at Oregon Health & Science University in the OBGYN department. I see patients clinically in the complex family planning clinic and help manage and coordinate clinical trials in general gynecology and family planning. As a nurse practitioner providing family planning care to individuals in Oregon for nearly 25 years I have many stories about people in need of services for sad, tragic, traumatic and life-threatening reasons. But, the reality is that people should not need to have a compelling story about why they should have access to abortion services, gender affirming care, or any other reproductive healthcare or service. Reproductive healthcare and gender affirming care are healthcare. Period. No justification should ever need to be made for why an individual needs healthcare. I am firmly in support of HB2002 for its protection of access to reproductive and gender affirming healthcare and protection of reproductive healthcare providers.