

Submitter: Carol Shenk

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

I support this Bill to protect women's bodily autonomy and freedom to make health care choices with their personal medical care providers and without interference from outside parties, to guarantee access to FDA approved contraception and medication to treat miscarriage and induce abortion under the care of a licensed medical provider. Doctors and other health care providers must be free to practice following internationally accepted professional guidelines and ethics and to administer approved medical procedures and medications. Private insurance, pharmacies, politicians, and religious organizations must not be allowed to limit women's freedom to make choices about their own bodies and their own futures. Oregon has a tradition of respecting personal bodily autonomy in its support for end of life care and the recently approved use of alternative medications for treatment of mood disorders. Personal health decisions should be between individuals and qualified health professionals.

Women's choices on the Oregon coast are already limited since our local hospitals are all religious organizations.

It has been shown all over the world that where women have reproductive freedom, the overall health and economy of the entire community improves.

Thank you for considering this vital legislation.