

Submitter: Rachel Levine

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

March 20, 2023

TO: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

FROM: Professor Janet Lorenzen

RE: Support for HB 2002

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and members of the committee,

My name is Rachel Levine and I am a student at Willamette University. As a female student abortions and other reproductive health services are vital to me and my well-being and quality of life. I support HB 2002 because access to reproductive health services can be a life-saving procedure.

Preventing access to safe and affordable reproductive health care will not stop people from seeking abortions or other services. Instead, restrictions will only push people to seek more risky and dangerous services. You can't ban abortions, only safe ones. Health care of this nature is not only limited to women but should also be gender inclusive for those who are trans or non-binary. It is vital that the language and services surrounding reproductive health be gender inclusive in order to better help patients and improve the quality and access to healthcare services. Trans people deserve to both have access to reproductive health and have their gender affirmed.

Oregonians would benefit tremendously from improved access to reproductive health care. Health care services, such as abortions, can help improve the quality of life not only for those who are receiving these services but can also help the other people in their lives. Abortions are often life-saving services that can help keep someone such as myself alive and happy.

Thank You,
Rachel Levine