

Submitter: Anna Lauridsen

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: Anna Lauridsen

RE: Support for HB 2002

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

I am Anna Lauridsen and I am a student at Willamette University. I am writing to you in support of HB 2002.

I support this bill because of these fundamental beliefs: abortion is healthcare and gender-affirming care is suicide prevention.

Access to this healthcare is critical and crucial to maintaining the health of all Oregonians. Many Oregonians do not have easy access to these types of healthcare. Some have to drive upwards of 350 miles to seek abortion care.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of Oregon counties do not have an abortion provider. Part of cementing the rights to this type of healthcare is making sure it is accessible. HB 2002 will: prohibit limiting gender-affirming care, hold insurance companies accountable for covering gender-affirming care, expand insurance coverage to additional services that support transition, and it would protect care providers.

Oregon has historically been a leader in healthcare legislation and protection, continue on this legacy by passing HB 2002.

Thank you,  
Anna Lauridsen