

Submitter: Paula Amato

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

March 20, 2023

To: House Committee on Behavioral Health & Health Care

From: Paula Amato, MD (OHSU)

Re: Support HB2002

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

My name is Dr. Paula Amato and I am writing to express support for HB2002 which will help create a future in which every person in Oregon has the ability to make decisions about their own body and access the full range of reproductive, sexual, and gender affirming health care.

Access to the full range of sexual and reproductive healthcare is a basic human right.

Oregon has long valued the right to choose when and whether to start a family and bodily autonomy. The Dobbs decision and the race to criminalize access to health care will only deepen healthy inequities and create generational consequences.

Without further protections, people of color and low-income families are most at risk for further economic and health consequences and now, the threat of criminalization.

HB2002 would codify the right to the full spectrum of reproductive care and protect individuals from criminal and civil liability for supporting, or providing reproductive and gender affirming care that is legal in our state. HB2002 will protect providers' ability to provide care to all patients who seek gender affirming care and reproductive healthcare in Oregon. HB2002 will also help close the gaps in insurance coverage for gender affirming care, contraception access on OHP, and reproductive healthcare services at public university.

Washington State enacted very similar legislation to this bill in 2021, and there has been very little fiscal impact to the state. I urge your yes vote on HB2002. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paula Amato, MD

Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology

Oregon Health & Science University