

Submitter: Jennifer Larson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3592

To Our Oregon Legislators,

I am writing in support of House Bill 3592. I am an Emergency Physician working in an rural community and I am acutely aware of the need for timely, urgent obstetrical services. It is even more crucial in underserved, low income populations where socioeconomic factors already adversely affect health outcomes.

In the field of obstetrics, minutes can be the difference between life and death for a mother or a baby. I urge you to pass House Bill 3592 to help protect disadvantaged communities and prevent them from losing these lifesaving obstetrical services. Due to EMTALA, in a hospital without an active OB or Mother/Baby Unit, these women are seen and cared for in the Emergency Department. We are trained for the emergent care necessary, however, a laboring mom usually has different needs, longer observation, unique care, and if stable would require transfer (something more difficult at this time in our state of health care crisis).

Please help our communities keep these essential services.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jennifer Larson, MD