

DATE: March 21, 2023
TO: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
FROM: Stephanie Doig
RE: Support HB 2002

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

My name is Stephanie Doig and I am writing to express **support for House Bill 2002, Reproductive Health and Access to Care.**

I believe that access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health care is a basic human right. Abortion must be safe and accessible to all. Everyone deserves access to life-saving medical care, and nobody should be denied gender-affirming care.

As reproductive rights and transgender rights are increasingly under attack nationwide, Oregon must demonstrate critical leadership in support of **healthcare rights for all.**

For too many Oregonians, reproductive and gender-affirming care are still out-of-reach because of geography, income, or insurance coverage. After the Supreme Court ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, we now have eighteen states which have abortion bans or serious restrictions in effect, including our neighbor Idaho. This decreased access exacerbates existing reproductive health care deserts, especially in Eastern Oregon, as our state experiences a surge in out-of-state patients.

HB 2002 centers those who face the most barriers to accessing care in policy-making and resourcing. The recommendations from Speaker Rayfield's Reproductive Health and Access to Care Work Group were developed with impacted communities, providers, and organizations working on the ground to meet this moment.

As a cisgender, queer/lesbian woman, I've experienced barriers to reproductive and sexual health care. As a parent, I want to ensure a better future for all Oregonians by encouraging you to take the necessary steps to remove barriers and empower Oregonians in making choices that are best for their own health and lives.

This is why I urge your **yes vote on HB 2002.** Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Doig
Portland, OR