

Submitter: Joan Gallagher Marks  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health  
Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2685

Thank you for your time on this important matter impacting our most vulnerable in the great State of Oregon.

Time and again our state has lead the nation in support of newborns, family awareness and avenues of support.

CMV touched my family directly two years ago with the confusing low birth weight of our Lilah. Astute OHSU physicians immediately ordered tests (not routinely afforded to all newborns) and our CMV journey as an extended family began.

Previously none of our family which includes many teachers and sooooo many young families knew of CMV previous to our Lilah.

"Where there is awareness there is involvement", is a phrase my Dad would drill into our family of eight children. He was a surgeon and a compassionate, inclusive voice for the American College of Surgeons for decades.

It is my hope that with your votes today you will make more families potentially impacted aware of this life path altering virus with literature concerning risks to vulnerable communities at the time of Pregnancy and Family-planning... not just after.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Joan Gallagher Marks  
Jackson County, Oregon