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Testimony
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
Support SB 598
March 11, 2025

Testimony in Support of SB 598 – Patient Perspective

Dear Chair Patterson and Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

My name is Aimee Adelman, and I live in Oregon Senate District 14. I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 598, which ensures equal utilization review standards for opioid and nonopioid medications prescribed for the same treatment.

As both a rare disease and transplant patient, I have firsthand experience navigating pain management after surgeries and medical procedures. Managing pain effectively is essential for maintaining quality of life, yet too often, patients face unnecessary barriers when seeking safer, nonopioid options. Current disparities in utilization review policies make it harder for patients to access the treatments that best fit their needs, leaving them with fewer choices.

SB 598 is a crucial step toward patient-centered care, ensuring that all pain management options—opioid and nonopioid—are equally accessible without added administrative hurdles. By creating a level playing field for nonopioid treatments, this bill empowers patients and providers to make the best decisions for individualized care, reducing reliance on opioids while ensuring effective pain relief.

This issue goes beyond policy—it is about compassionate, equitable healthcare. People living with chronic pain or recovering from surgery should not have to jump through extra hoops just to access safe and appropriate treatment.

I strongly urge the committee to pass SB 598 to promote a more balanced, patient-focused approach to pain management in Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Aimee Adelman