



**NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN**  
**OREGON NOW**

March 19, 2025

Oregon Legislature  
Salem, OR

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, Members of the Committee,

This supporting document is in reference to **SB 1137**.

*Requires health benefit plans to cover autologous breast reconstruction procedures and related services with specific requirements related to out-of-pocket costs, utilization review, reimbursement rates and network adequacy.*

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

**Oregon National Organization for Women (Oregon NOW) is in strong support of SB 1137**

Our organization is very committed to the health, survival, and dignity of all Oregon women. One in eight women will have a breast cancer diagnosis in her life.

As the president of Oregon NOW, I am so proud that our chapter is in full support of women having care. Women often spend more time taking care of children, elders, family members, and the community than themselves. So much is out of women's hands when fighting cancer. The dignity to move back to their lives is vitally important, even though they will still carry many scars.

The alternatives to these procedures have increasingly proven to be riskier for health and have increased side-effects.

Not only am I part of the leadership of Oregon NOW but this is a personal issue for me. I am a breast cancer survivor. While I did not have DIEP flap surgery, I did have same day cancer/reconstructive surgery by the amazing cancer team of Dr Niak and Dr Nauta at OHSU.

My life-long love of dance meant that having symmetry is extremely important. As a dancer, being constantly reminded of a harsh battle for my life takes away from the joy. With additional health complications, the option of implants was a non-starter. My quality of life is much better due to having non-synthetic reconstruction.

Oregon NOW encourages the Oregon legislature to support SB 1137.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nuala Gray

President of Oregon National Organization for Women