

Submitter: Nicole Steckler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB293

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the Senate Committee on Healthcare,

My name is Niki Steckler and I urge you to support SB 293-1. I support this bill because I believe healthcare is a basic human right and I want all people to receive a foundational level of healthcare independent of their carceral status. I want the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) to be accountable for providing the same quality of care available to the rest of us.

SB 293-1 is a necessary step to ensure that the Department of Corrections meets basic healthcare standards—treating pre-existing conditions, documenting treatment denials, ensuring care is not withheld based on release date, and maintaining an up-to-date formulary. These are fundamental expectations for any healthcare system, and DOC should be no different.

I urge you to support SB 293-1 to improve continuity of care and protect the health and dignity of incarcerated individuals.

Respectfully,  
Niki Steckler