

Submitter: Michelle Van Bogart

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB293

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the committee, my name is Michelle Van Bogart and I encourage you to SUPPORT SB 293-1. I support this bill because I've personally known many people who have been very negatively impacted by poor medical care while incarcerated. As someone who has been in the medical field for over 20 years, I've been shocked and appalled by the conditions provided in Oregon jails and prisons. EVERYONE, regardless of incarceration status, should have access to good medical care.

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. Thank you for considering.