

Representative Hòa Nguyễn Oregon House District 48 HB 2942 - HIV TREATMENT

5/1 Senate Committee on Health Care

My name is Representative Hòa Nguyễn, and I proudly serve House District 48, which includes North Clackamas and outer East Portland. I want to express my strong support for House Bill 2942.

As the eldest daughter of Vietnamese refugees, an educator, and a dedicated public servant, I understand firsthand how critical access to culturally competent, community-based health care is, especially for historically underserved and under-resourced communities. My work as a Student and Community Engagement Specialist and as a member of the David Douglas School Board has shown me how closely health outcomes are tied to educational opportunity and family well-being.

HB 2942 is a common-sense, equity-focused solution. It directs the Oregon Health Authority and coordinated care organizations to reimburse pharmacists at the same rate as other health care providers for HIV-related services, including prescribing and administering PrEP and PEP. This bill recognizes pharmacists as trusted, frontline health professionals, often the most accessible providers for people who face barriers to traditional care.

This matters deeply in areas like mine. North Clackamas and East Portland are among the most rapidly growing and diverse regions in Oregon. Too many of our neighbors, especially LGBTQ+ individuals, BIPOC communities, and people who inject drugs, face structural obstacles to accessing HIV prevention and care. By supporting pharmacists in delivering these life-saving services, we can close gaps in access, reduce stigma, and prevent the spread of HIV in a compassionate and effective way. Our communities are strongest when they are healthy, when prevention is prioritized, and when we invest in care that meets people where they are. HB 2942 does just that. It ensures that everyone, regardless of zip code or background, has the opportunity to receive timely, affirming, and high-quality HIV care.

I urge your support for House Bill 2942. Let's continue building a healthcare system rooted in equity, access, and respect for every Oregonian.

Thank you for your time and consideration.