

From the Desk of Representative Ed Diehl



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Diehl".

*Do No Harm Action's mission is to ensure that the practice of medicine is driven by scientific evidence. We work to defend the timeless standards of medical excellence against outside influences that would undermine patient trust and public health.*

### **The Dangers of HB 4088**

Pediatric medical transition, as shown by various evidence reviews<sup>1</sup> and acknowledged most recently by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons,<sup>2</sup> **lacks sufficient supporting evidence and causes enormous harm to children.**

Yet HB 4088 grants protections to pediatric medical transition **far beyond** those afforded to nearly any other medical service. These practices need scrutiny and accountability, but **HB 4088 shrouds them in secrecy.**

HB 4088 undermines transparency in healthcare, limits valuable scientific research, and places children at risk. **Oppose this harmful legislation.**

#### **Lack of Transparency**

- Section 3 of HB 4088 is drafted so broadly that it would bar public bodies from providing information or assistance not only to federal or interstate law enforcement, but also to any private citizen seeking information related to reproductive or "gender affirming" healthcare.
- These prohibitions could impede research related to prenatal care, miscarriages, prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and other healthcare activities. None of these activities are related to interstate investigations into "gender-affirming care," yet all would be swept within the bill's prohibitions. **Such valuable work should not be constrained.**
- Additionally, Section 9 creates a new confidentiality rule for individually identifiable information held by the Oregon Health Authority **far beyond existing state and federal law**, impairing essential health research.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Dep't of Health & Human Servs., *Treatment for Pediatric Gender Dysphoria: Review of Evidence and Best Practices* (Nov. 2025), <https://opa.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/2025-11/gender-dysphoria-report.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Am. Soc'y of Plastic Surgeons, *Position Statement on Gender Surgery for Children and Adolescents* (Feb. 3, 2026), <https://www.plasticsurgery.org/documents/health-policy/positions/2026-gender-surgery-children-adolescents.pdf>.

- As a result of this bill, Oregon researchers would lose access to crucial data that could be used to study maternal health outcomes, STI trends, medication safety, and other critical healthcare matters. This would place Oregon far outside national norms and would impede evidence-based policymaking.

### **Safety of Children**

- The broad language of HB 4088 may ***impair parents' ability to safeguard their children across state lines.***
- The bill could inadvertently shield adults who facilitate a minor's travel without parental consent, provided that such actions were undertaken for the purpose of assisting the minor in obtaining "gender-affirming care."
- HB 4088 would limit parents' ability to obtain their child's medical records if they believe their child is being harmed.
- The bill would curtail cooperation with outside investigations and **deny children harmed by medical transition an opportunity to seek justice.**

In short, HB 4088 prioritizes ideological goals over transparency, medical evidence, parental rights, and child safety.

**For these reasons, we urge you to oppose HB 4088.**

Thank you,

Do No Harm Action