

Submitter: Erin Heckman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

I am asking the senate committee oppose SB 1598. I have been an RN for 17 years and in that time I have observed the growing number of individuals with complex medical issues that require a knowledgeable and attentive medical team for each individual case, one that is aware of each patient's specific needs and the complex treatments and medication regimen these patients are undergoing. When it comes to acute care, there are instances that require an important medication or treatment to be on-hold for a time but that is only after careful consideration by an MD and often after a consultation with the patient's specialists as well as a conversation with the patient themselves regarding the risks vs benefits of holding medications or treatments. This is an integral part of the physician-patient relationship. SB 1598 would completely bypass that process and grant the power of patient care to a group far-removed from the complexities of each individual patient.

In addition, there have been countless medical treatments, medications, and vaccines that have been released to the public only to be recalled later due to causing severe harm or even death. I am deeply concerned that this bill is even in consideration as the people of Oregon are still experiencing the consequences of following a single governing body's orders regarding COVID-19.

I am asking that SB 1598 be soundly opposed.