

PRESS RELEASE HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Majority Leader Fahey Statement on Passage of Historic Reproductive Health & Access to Care Bill

SALEM, Ore - Today, Oregon House Democrats passed the historic **Reproductive Health & Access to Care** (RHAC) Bill (House Bill 2002). <u>House Majority Julie Fahey</u> (D-West Eugene & Veneta) releases the following statement:

"After the Supreme Court's reckless decision to overturn *Roe v Wade*, House Democrats made a commitment to protect Oregonians' basic rights and freedoms. Today, we fulfilled that commitment.

"The Reproductive Health & Access to Care Bill is built on the belief that every single Oregonian—no matter your income, race, gender, or zip code—should have the right to make deeply personal health care decisions without interference from politicians.

"This bill fully restores the rights we had under *Roe*, and it protects Oregonians from the anti-abortion and anti-LGBTQ+ laws Republican states continue to impose across the country. By breaking down barriers and protecting access to reproductive health care, RHAC ensures that providers can do their jobs and patients can receive the care they need, free from fear and uncertainty.

"For over half a century, Oregonians have affirmed their support for making abortion and reproductive healthcare safe and accessible to all. RHAC will help make that belief a reality in our new, post-*Roe* world."

In 2017, Leader Fahey was the chief sponsor of the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA). RHEA codified the right to an abortion in state law and made the full range of reproductive health care services more affordable and accessible for all Oregonians.

RHAC builds off of this legislation and takes additional steps to clarify Oregon law and provide certainty to medical professionals, so they can focus on providing care to their patients. To learn more about RHAC, <u>click here</u>.