

ANNA SCHARF
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 23



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 2, 2022

Chief Clerk Sekerak
Oregon State Capitol

RE: Vote explanation for HB 4034 (A-Engrossed)

Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I wish to submit the following explanation for my vote on HB 4034 (A-Engrossed).

HB 4034(A-Engrossed) is the healthcare omnibus bill for the session and therefore it contains several provisions.

While I agreed with some sections of this bill, I could not support it as a single yes vote.

Stand-alone bills such as HB 4024 and HB 4025 proposed technical fixes to the 2021 Pseudoephedrine bill (HB2648) which passed. These bills were not passed as stand-alone bills but were rather stuffed into this bill. They were bills that I could have supported.

However, in section 9-12 of the bill it removes the RHEA (Reproductive Health Equity Act) sunset statute, thus making it permanent. The sections also adopt broad and vague language giving the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) the authority to "implement reproductive health services and education programs and provide funding for reproductive health services and education in this state." This includes abortion.

This bill passed on a party line vote and I was pleased to be among those that cast a no vote.

Regards,

Anna