

FROM THE DESK OF REP. CHRIS HARKER

OHSU SUPPORTS SB 569

Telemedicine has made it possible for OHSU medical experts to treat patients almost anywhere in the state.

- Not only has telemedicine saved lives, at OHSU telemedicine has also spared over 140 patients from have to leave their community hospital and <u>saved more than \$2 million</u> in transport costs.
- However, a 20th century regulatory system still hampers our ability to deliver 21st century care where it's most urgently needed.
- Most onerous is the federal requirement for each physician providing telemedicine to be credentialed at each hospital where services are provided
- Because each hospital has unique credentialing procedures and requirements, this can be a frustrating and time consuming process with incredible bureaucratic challenges.

SB 569 standardizes the credentialing process for telemedicine providers by requiring the Oregon Health Authority to create specified lists of documents that can be used during the telemedicine credentialing process.

- Under SB 569, OHA is required to work with all telemedicine stakeholders around the state to develop standardized lists of credentialing documents used to credential telemedicine providers at hospitals in Oregon.
- SB 569 also allows for hospitals to credential telemedicine providers through a "delegated credentialing agreement". This is an agreement between the two hospitals allowing the hospital receiving telemedicine to accept the credentialing decisions of the hospital where the telemedicine provider is located.

SB 569 is a consensus bill that creates clear, standardized processes for credentialing telemedicine providers at hospitals in Oregon.

Please Support SB 569 to ensure that life-saving and cost efficient telemedicine services can continue to expand throughout Oregon.