



SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION

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Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice Chair Linthicum, members of the committee:

My name is Ethan Krow and I am offering testimony on behalf of the Service Employees International Union, Local 49 in support of Senate Bill 1027.

SEIU Local 49 represents more than 13,000 members throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington. Our members include licensed practical nurses, respiratory therapists, radiologic technologists, nursing assistants, phlebotomists, laboratory assistants, customer service representatives, food service workers, housekeeping and many other healthcare classifications.

This bill addresses a rare but serious problem health care providers face. During the course of serving their patients, who at times may be sleeping or unconscious, a health care provider may receive a needlestick injury which brings them into direct contact with the bodily fluids of their patient. SB 1027 would allow these healthcare provider to know if they should take prompt, appropriate medical action as a result of potentially coming to contact with the human immunodeficiency virus in very specific situations.

SB 1027 would only allow a blood draw for testing if the patient isn't expected to regain consciousness or the ability to consent in the time frame the health care practitioner would need to receive appropriate medical treatment and there is no other person immediately available who is able to consent on behalf of the patient. These tests must be anonymous, with the patient, or patient's legal guardian, informed of the blood draw and the results.

The results may not be made available to law enforcement agencies or any person other than the health care practitioner, the individual who performs the test and the patient or the patient's legal guardian. Results may not be included in the medical record of the patient, and patient may not be charged.

These situations are rare but very stressful for health care providers. SB 1027 is carefully written to address these matters, and we urge a yes vote.

Thank you for your time,

Ethan Krow