

Providence Health & Services
4400 N.E. Halsey St., Building 2
Suite 599
Portland, OR 97213
www.providence.org/oregon



February 6, 2020

The Honorable Andrea Salinas
Chair, House Health Care Committee
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon

Re: HB 4032 – Funding to support nurse staffing requirements

Dear Representative Salinas and members of the committee,

On behalf of Providence Health & Services, thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for House Bill 4032 - funding to implement recommendations from the Oregon Nurse Staffing Advisory Board.

Providence is committed to developing collaborative partnerships with our nurse caregivers to improve work satisfaction and provide a better care experience for our patients. As part of these efforts Providence was a strong supporter of comprehensive, consensus nurse staffing legislation that passed in 2015.

Through our work with the Oregon Health Authority, hospitals statewide are implementing nurse staffing modernization changes but we have faced a number of unforeseen challenges. In order to address these challenges that Nurse Staffing Advisory Board crafted recommendations to improve the process as OHA enters the second tri-annual round of surveys. These recommendations include streamlining the survey process, educating surveyors and increasing their capacity, and strengthening the role of the Board.

House Bill 4032 would provide the funding necessary to implement these recommendations and improve the process for hospitals, nurses and the OHA moving forward. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback, we hope you will join us in support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Burrows".

Jennifer Burrows RN, BN, BSC, MBA
Chief Clinical and Nursing Officer - Oregon Region
Providence Health & Services