



**Testimony in Support of HB 3016  
May 5, 2021  
Senate Committee On Health Care  
Submission from Terri Niles, RN**

Greetings Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Knopp and members of the committee.

My name is Terri Niles, and I member of Oregon Nurses Association (ONA). Today I submit, to you, testimony in support of HB 3016 as one of ONA's 15,000 registered nurses, Nurse Practitioners of Oregon, and professional member affiliates throughout the state. I am honored to be one of those Nurses and helping to represent our organization.

I support HB 3016, Oregon's Nurse Staffing Law serves as a national model, providing high quality patient care, resulting from the ongoing collaboration between nursing professionals and the facilities in which they work.

My personal experience as a nurse during this pandemic, I have seen hospitals initiate unnecessary crisis staffing, unsafe staffing and increased nurse-patient ratios that put nurses licenses at risk and our patients at risk.

Unfortunately, insufficient funding to support OHA's implementation has prevented effective oversight, inconsistent with current law. This bill, which received broad Senate and House support during our 2020 legislative session, would provide the necessary funding to bring the department into compliance to ensure staffing plan deficiencies are addressed in a timely manner.

I support HB 3016, and we ask that you vote favorably to move the bill out of committee.

Sincerely

Terri Niles RN