

HEALTHCARE PARTNERS SUPPORT SB 1545 A - FUTURE READY OREGON

SB 1545 A

Oregon's health care system is experiencing a workforce crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated staffing shortages in every setting: long term care, clinics, hospitals, and in home care. The most recent data about vacancies from the Oregon Employment Department found that in the fall of 2021, Oregon's health care providers had more than 27,700 vacancies and were Oregon's top hiring employers. Healthcare workers at all levels are experiencing burnout, mental health challenges, and other lasting impacts of being on the frontline of the pandemic.

Oregon cannot delay adding additional CNAs, health techs, nurses, doctors, and other healthcare professionals to our workforce. We must act now.

SB 1545 addresses these challenges by investing in healthcare job training and education opportunities that will put people first and open our healthcare opportunities to Oregonians previously unable to enter the healthcare workforce. Employers and training providers will be encouraged to partner and collaborate in ways that not only enable Oregonians to complete the required training and education, but also help them be successful once they enter the workplace.

SB 1545 also creates new statewide workforce development grants for the healthcare workforce. These new grants in addition to better funding for our regional Workforce Investment Boards and seventeen Community Colleges provide the best opportunity to address our urgent workforce needs and help the healthcare sector hire diverse workers to meet the needs of all Oregonians.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON SB 1545 A!



SEIU-UHW & JOINT EMPLOYER EDUCATION FUND



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