



February 3, 2022

Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Noble and Power, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

The Oregon Society of Anesthesiologists (OSA) is the professional association of physician anesthesiologists practicing in all corners of the state. OSA writes to express support for HB 4142, and to thank Rep. Boshart Davis and the other bipartisan bill sponsors for their leadership on this issue.

The last several years have brought unprecedented challenges for OSA members and other members of the hospital-based care team. Unfortunately, a rise in workplace violence can be counted among those challenges. Violence against hospital workers, including nurses, physicians, and other staff is not a new phenomenon, but it has certainly increased exponentially in recent years.

Everyone deserves a safe workplace, especially healthcare workers facing tough conditions to provide care to Oregonians. Unfortunately, though, healthcare workers—particularly those working in emergency departments— are victims of assault at higher rates than nearly any other profession.

OSA joins other healthcare groups and respectfully requests that the committee pass HB 4142, and extend protections that are already available to some healthcare workers, to all healthcare workers in hospital settings.

Thank you for your consideration,

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