



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
PLASTIC SURGEONS®

444 East Algonquin Road • Arlington Heights, IL 60005-4664

847-228-9900 • Fax: 847-228-9131 • [www.plasticsurgery.org](http://www.plasticsurgery.org)



THE PLASTIC SURGERY  
FOUNDATION™



January 27, 2023

The Honorable Rob Nosse, *Chair*  
The Honorable Christine Goodwin, *Vice Chair*  
The Honorable Travis Nelson, *Vice Chair*  
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
900 Court St. NE,  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**Re: ASPS Opposition to House Bill 2583**

Dear Chair Nosse and Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson:

On behalf of the Northwest Society of Plastic Surgeons (NWSPS) and the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS), we are writing **in opposition to** H.B. 2583, which would change the title of “physician assistant” to “physician associate.” ASPS is the largest association of plastic surgeons in the world, and in conjunction with NWSPS, represents more than 8,000 members and 92 percent of all board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States – including 116 board-certified plastic surgeons in Oregon. Our mission is to advance quality care for plastic surgery patients and promote public policy that protects patient safety.

Patients deserve transparency. This title change effort will lead to a more confusing, opaque healthcare landscape. This legislation is blatantly attempting to further blur the lines between physicians and physician assistants, an irresponsible act of naked self-interest. Changing the title of a “physician assistant” to “physician associate” does nothing to assist patients in making informed decisions about who is providing their medical care. It does not combat the serious issue of truth in healthcare marketing. It does not clarify the scope and capabilities of a physician assistant. Instead, this title change will undermine the physician-led, team-based healthcare delivery model by degrading the vital relationship physicians and other members of the healthcare team. This will negatively impact patient outcomes.

As surgeons, we will fight any effort to mislead patients and oppose actions that negatively impact their safety. We expect the same from the Oregon legislature, and that is why we ask that you share in the physician community’s profound concern about this title change and refuse to move H.B. 2583 forward further.

Please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Hermes, Director of Government Relations, Political Affairs, and Health & Payment Policy, at [phermes@plasticsurgery.org](mailto:phermes@plasticsurgery.org) or (847) 228-3331 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Gregory Greco, DO, FACS  
President, American Society of Plastic Surgeons

Emily Williams, MD  
President, Northwest Society of Plastic Surgeons

cc: Members, House Committee on Behavioral Health & Health Care