

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Goodwin, Vice-Chair Nelson, and Members of the Committee:

As a family member of several nurses and certified nursing assistants, I am thrilled to express my support for HB 2600. This bill is a crucial step towards ensuring that the Oregon State Board of Nursing represents the diversity of care settings where our beloved nursing professionals work.

I have seen firsthand the incredible dedication and hard work that my family members put into their jobs every day. They work in a variety of settings, from hospitals and nursing homes to home health care and rehabilitation centers. Despite the differences in their work environments, one thing is clear – they all play a crucial role in improving the health and well-being of their patients.

However, despite their efforts, the current state of the nursing profession often feels unbalanced and unjust. Too often, the voices of those working in smaller, community-based settings go unheard and unrepresented. This is why I am so grateful for the provisions of HB 2600.

By requiring the governor to balance the diversity of care settings in appointing members to the Board of Nursing, we will finally have a board that truly represents the full spectrum of our nursing workforce. This will lead to better decision-making and more equitable policies that support and value the work of all nurses and certified nursing assistants.

I believe that this bill will have a tremendously positive impact on our nursing community and I urge the legislature to pass it. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to the day when the Board of Nursing truly represents the diversity of care settings in which our nursing professionals serve.

Sincerely,

*Devon Lawson-McCourt*

Vida, Oregon