

April 19, 2023

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 232

Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee,

I am writing testimony today in favor of SB 232, on behalf of the Oregon Society of Physician Assistants (OSPA). This legislation would increase access to care by clarifying the rules regarding out-of-state physician assistants and physicians providing care via telemedicine.

As health care providers, we saw firsthand during the Covid-19 pandemic that there is an increased need for physician assistants and physicians to practice using telemedicine. Advances in technology in recent years and patient adoption of these tools have improved the means by which telemedicine can be provided.

SB 232 clarifies that the practice of medicine occurs where patients are physically located, removing barriers to the provision of telemedicine services in Oregon while upholding the same standard of care as in-person services. This bill strikes the balance of ensuring that all medical practitioners who provide care in Oregon are subject to Oregon Medical Board oversight, while avoiding the creation of additional burdens for providers.

OSPA feels that SB 232 is a simple statutory fix for telemedicine that will have an overall positive impact on the health of Oregonians, and those that visit our state to work, learn, and play. Please join us in support of SB 232 by passing this bill out of your committee.

Thank you, Brian Mills PA-C President OSPA