

April 26, 2023

Before the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

Senate Bill 969

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony in favor of Senate Bill 969. The purpose of the bill is to add language to ORS 678.442(2) so that the disciplinary language for certified nursing assistants mirrors that for nurses. CNAs have equal accountability to abide by the Nurse Practice Act and assure that Oregonians are kept safe through safe practice.

During the last few legislative sessions, the Board has worked to clean up unnecessary or ambiguous statute language. SB 969 clarifies the current language by stating plainly that the board may place a CNA on probation and also deny a nursing assistant application for failing to meet certification requirements. The bill doesn't impact any of the board's processes but does make the language stronger and consistent for all license types.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact because of this bill. There is no known opposition.

The Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 969.