

Submitter: Jodi Klier-Butler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: SB703

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To Whom it May concern,

I am writing to express my opposition on the proposed Senate Bill 703. In Oregon, we have worked with D&S Diversified Technologies LLP; Headmaster LLP for many years. Headmaster provides nursing assistant testing for 18 other states. In Oregon, NA program faculty have a long history of collaboration to ensure the quality of the training and examination process meets the expectations and needs of all Oregonians. In addition, Headmaster works closely with the OSBN and the Oregon NA programs to ensure the training program faculty understands skills training and how the testing process is conducted. This bill would remove our relationship with Headmaster, silence our voices and require all Oregon NA training programs to use the exam developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

I have been a nurse for well over a decade. I have been a nursing assistant instructor and Program Director. I have had Spanish, Russian, Romanian, Ukrainian and students from various African countries that have successfully passed the State exam. If we are going to provide the exam in Spanish, then isn't this discriminatory to other language speakers?

Many patients have trouble expressing themselves in their time of need. Adding a CNA into the care scenario that can not speak and understand English at the level necessary to provide safe and adequate care is frightening. Being bilingual is a benefit but, shouldn't our CNA care staff speak and understand English to provide the best care? In my humble opinion, this is where the disconnect lies. Why doesn't the State develop and provide an English as a second language training that is focused on medical terminology, conversation, and comprehension as a prerequisite to the NA training classes.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Jodi J. Klier-Butler MSN RN