

Submitter: Marcella Post

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB4070

Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee:

My name is Marcella Post, and I am a District Nurse working under Douglas ESD.

I'm writing in support of HB 4070, which provides critical resources that youth and families across Oregon need now. Oregon students have limited access to school nurses; 25% of districts have no school nurse and another quarter of districts have less than one full time school nurse. Since 2019, School Health Services Planning Grants, funded by legislation such as this bill, have improved access to school nursing services in grantee districts, and led to the creation of a School Nurse Pilot Program. This program has begun the essential work of defining what school nursing model can offer students.

I support this bill because our county is continually in need of support for medical services. The poverty levels in Douglas County have risen. The environment is one of need. Often this need is met and addressed simply by having nurses in the right place to help our families locate the resources to make the lives of our students better and more productive.

Oregon students need access to school nurses and this bill will continue efforts to increase this access. I urge you to vote yes on HB 4070."

Thank you,

Marcella Post RN