

February 13, 2024

Oregon State Legislature  
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
*Submitted electronically via OLIS*

**RE: House Bill 4071, relating to health care licensing**

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

On behalf of Oregon's 61 community hospitals, the Hospital Association of Oregon appreciates your commitment to addressing barriers to health care licensing.

**We support the -1 amendment to HB 4071, which would establish the Task Force on Health Professional Licensing Modernization.**

Oregon has workforce shortages in a wide array of licensing categories. These shortages impact our communities, making it difficult for patients to receive the right care, at the right place, at the right time. Oregon's licensure process should not exacerbate those workforce shortages.

We support the efforts in the -1 amendment to explore barriers and recommend solutions for prompt licensing of health professionals who would like to work in Oregon. The task force is tasked with identifying roadblocks to success, including applicant-facing processes, internal processes and technical infrastructure. Removing unnecessary roadblocks in licensing is an important step to ensuring the qualified workforce that Oregon needs is available to care for Oregonians.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for the -1 amendment to HB 4071.

Sincerely,



Troy Duker  
Legislative Director  
Hospital Association of Oregon

**About the Hospital Association of Oregon**

Founded in 1934, the Hospital Association of Oregon Association (HAO) is a mission-driven, nonprofit trade association representing Oregon’s 61 hospitals. Together, hospitals are the sixth largest private employer statewide, employing more than 70,000 employees. Committed to fostering a stronger, safer, more equitable Oregon where all people have access to the high-quality care they need, the hospital association supports Oregon’s hospitals so they can support their communities; educates government officials and the public on the state’s health landscape and works collaboratively with policymakers, community based organizations and the health care community to build consensus on and advance health care policy benefiting the state’s 4 million residents.



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