



Oregon House Health Care Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 4071

Feb. 14, 2024

Chair Nosse, members of the committee,

The Northwest Kidney Council is grateful for the opportunity to support HB 4071, which would direct health care regulatory boards to issue temporary licenses to qualified workers within 10 days of receiving their application.

The Northwest Kidney Council partners with patient advocates, health care professionals, care providers and researchers to advance kidney care in both Washington and Oregon. Together we are committed to ensuring that all patients with kidney disease receive high quality care and that treatment is accessible to all.

This bill represents a crucial step forward in ensuring timely access to essential healthcare services, particularly in the field of nephrology where access to qualified professionals is critical for Oregonians navigating kidney disease.

First and foremost, the expedited issuance of temporary authorization to practice will significantly alleviate the burden on healthcare professionals seeking licensure, particularly those relocating to new jurisdictions where the need could be greater.

Furthermore, this bill improves patient outcomes by ensuring continuity of care. Patients with kidney diseases require consistent access to specialized healthcare providers to manage their conditions effectively and prevent complications. Delays in licensure can disrupt this continuity. By requiring a swift turnaround time for licensure applications, this bill safeguards patients' access to timely and uninterrupted kidney care services, thereby enhancing their overall quality of life.

In conclusion, the Northwest Kidney Council wholeheartedly supports HB 4071. This legislation not only promotes workforce efficiency and addresses healthcare provider shortages but also prioritizes patient well-being by ensuring uninterrupted access to essential kidney care services. Thank you for considering our testimony and for your dedication to improving healthcare access and delivery in our state.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Brown
Director of Advocacy
nathaniel@nwkidneycouncil.org
(971) 219-5561