

Submitter: Patricia Thompson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health
Care

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: HB2143

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to this bill before you regarding expanding training on Five-needle protocol. As an Addiction Counselor in the Portland Metro area, I have seen first hand the impact of the opioid crisis on our community. Having spent time in a treatment setting that offered acupuncture, I have also seen the benefit that acupuncture can offer. There is a great deal of data and precedent set by similar standards already in practice in other states. By defining the protocol, the limitations of the training and the use of the protocol, by not limiting it to licensed acupuncturists, we open up opportunities for protocol trained individuals to meet the community where they are at and offer harm reduction services. Removing barriers to inexpensive, accessible, and safe treatment for addiction and trauma makes sense to allow us to meet the moment of this crisis in our community.

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