



Testimony for the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare

**Regarding HB 2789**

Jana R. Bitton, MPA  
Executive Director, Oregon Center for Nursing  
[jana.bitton@oregoncenterfornursing.org](mailto:jana.bitton@oregoncenterfornursing.org)  
January 28, 2025

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Javadi and Vice-Chair Nelson, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding House Bill 2948, which proposes that only a registered nurse may supervise another nurse in a school setting for nursing-related practices, while allowing non-nursing supervisors for non-nursing tasks.

The Oregon Center for Nursing (OCN) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the nursing profession in Oregon through research, education, and collaboration. We strive to provide an informed, evidence-based perspective on issues impacting the nursing workforce and healthcare delivery across the state.

**Support for Clarity in Nursing Practice**

HB 2948 offers an opportunity to clarify the appropriate supervision of nurses in school settings. Registered nurses (RNs) are trained and licensed to oversee nursing practices and uphold the highest standards of patient care. Allowing only RNs to supervise nursing-related tasks aligns with professional standards, supports patient safety, and ensures nursing duties are carried out within the appropriate scope of practice.

**Recognition of Multidisciplinary Roles in Schools**

At the same time, we recognize the collaborative nature of school environments, where nurses often report to school administrators or supervisors who may not have nursing backgrounds. Providing clear distinctions between nursing and non-nursing tasks ensures that nurses remain accountable for clinical decisions while enabling administrators to oversee broader, non-clinical responsibilities.

**Considerations for Implementation**

OCN encourages careful consideration of the practical implications of HB 2948:

- **Workforce Impact:** School nurses often work in settings with limited staffing. It is important to ensure that this bill does not inadvertently create supervisory barriers that could deter nurses from working in schools.

- **Training and Education:** Administrators and non-nursing supervisors may benefit from additional guidance on how to effectively manage non-nursing tasks without encroaching on clinical decisions.
- **Stakeholder Input:** We encourage input from school nurses, administrators, and professional organizations to identify best practices for implementing the provisions of HB 2948.

In conclusion, OCN supports efforts to clarify nursing roles and responsibilities in school settings while promoting patient safety and multidisciplinary collaboration. We are committed to working with stakeholders to ensure that Oregon's school nurses are supported in their vital work.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony. We look forward to being a resource as this bill moves forward.