

TRAVIS NELSON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE DISTRICT 44
NORTH/NORTHEAST PORTLAND



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Testimony in Support of House Bill 2789

January 28, 2025

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Javadi, and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

My name is Travis Nelson, and I am the State Representative for House District 44 - North and Northeast Portland. The concept behind House Bill 2789 was brought to my attention by the American Nurses Association.

HB 2789 is a practical, patient-centered bill that addresses significant gaps in Oregon's healthcare system by allowing registered nurses to bill for care coordination without requiring an order from a primary care provider. This bill is rooted in practicality and serves to improve healthcare access, equity, and efficiency.

Many Oregonians, especially in rural or underserved communities, lack access to a primary care provider. This creates and amplifies existing barriers to timely care. HB 2789 removes the necessity for a primary care provider to order services already within a registered nurse's authorized scope of practice. This change empowers nurses to use their training and expertise to continue to provide essential care without unnecessary delays or administrative hurdles. By simplifying the process, HB 2789 reduces avoidable bottlenecks in the healthcare system while maintaining program integrity through clear billing and documentation protocol. This bill will also help patients after surgeries or hospital stays who are often overwhelmed by the process of managing their care alone by providing better coordinated care.

This bill respects the expertise of registered nurses, removes unnecessary red tape, and prioritizes the health and well-being of all Oregonians. It's a straightforward, effective step toward a more equitable and efficient healthcare system. I urge your support.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Travis Nelson".

State Representative Travis Nelson
House District 44, North/NE Portland