

Subject: Testimony in Support of House Bill 2948

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Javadi and Nelson, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this testimony in support of HB 2948.

I have worked as a registered nurse in the school setting for 19 years in rural Marion County and as a Registered Nurse for 44 years.

In the school setting, there are times when I need to spend significant time educating and redirecting educational staff about meeting the clinical needs of students in the school setting. This delays care for students and uses valuable nursing time. The Nursing Practice Act is a complex document that as a nurse takes significant time and effort to understand.

I had a clinical situation where a primary care provider sent the school an insulin to the school. The principal called me to come give the insulin immediately. I needed to educate this principal about the fact this was not a safe order since the student's endocrinologist had written different orders and giving the insulin the primary care provider had ordered would be dangerous.

This bill guides educators to ensure that the clinical care of students is solely within the scope of the nursing license. As a school nurse, I collaborate with fellow school nurses to evaluate complex situations.

This bill allows administrators to evaluate aspects of job performance that are not clinical practice. Administrators can evaluate things such as effective plans for staff training, interactions with fellow staff, and other non-clinical aspects of the job.

This bill also provides guidance that protects administrators from the legal liability of practicing nursing without a license.

Denise Cardinali RN
Corvallis, OR