

Submitter: Trevor Cleveland  
On Behalf Of: OOPA  
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2204

I am reaching out to ask for your support in the passage of HB 2204! As this bill removes the requirement that optometric physicians have hospital consulting privileges in order to qualify for a rural tax credit, this will level the playing field of competition for tax credits and student loan forgiveness.

As a practicing optometric physician in Oregon, I feel tax credits must be easily accessible. The requirement to have a hospital affiliation is an unnecessary barrier to many of my colleagues in rural communities. The process is tedious at best and it can take months or even years for small rural hospitals to establish criteria for new providers.

I support expanding access to rural healthcare and HB 2204 is a positive step forward! Thank you for your support!