



January 30, 2025

Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Javadi, and Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare.

Regarding House Bill 2143 – Five Needle Point Protocol (5NP), in Support

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Javadi, and Members of the Committee. For the record, my name is Alison Noice and I'm the Executive Director of CODA, Inc,

CODA is one of Oregon's largest and oldest providers of Addictions Treatment. We began a partnership with Working Class Acupuncture and POCA Tech in 2016, so that our patients with opioid use disorder could benefit from the evidence-based practice of 5NP acupuncture in the same place they receive counseling and medication-assisted treatment. Thousands of 5NP treatments have been administered since that time, and patient response has been incredibly positive. Patients tell us acupuncture reduces cravings, offers a welcome respite from their chaotic lives, and allows them to experience peace and relaxation.

Despite its clear benefits, maintaining acupuncture in our clinic has been challenging. Requiring a licensed, supervising acupuncturist onsite, at all times, has limited access and occasionally disrupted availability entirely. Patients benefit most from 5NP acupuncture when it is consistently available and at their own request. Precedent in other states, Arizona and Colorado for example, and in Oregon on the Umatilla Indian Reservation, make clear that this protocol is easily transferrable to trained individuals without acupuncture licensure.

Since we began this partnership, CODA has experienced a daunting rise in urgency secondary to opioid and stimulant epidemics, all while struggling with workforce shortages and facility limitations. Our experience tells us that incorporating acupuncture into our treatment array improves engagement and retention of our patients. The passage of House Bill 2143 would allow us to extend certification to recovery mentors and non-traditional staff, which will--in turn--enhance the services provided by our limited number of credentialed counseling and medical staff. This would further allow CODA to expand 5NP acupuncture into programs where the expense of a licensed acupuncturist is prohibitive. This means, at CODA alone, thousands more individuals could potentially benefit each year.

More than benefitting CODA, the passage of HB2143 will extend a low cost, high value service to communities significantly impacted by trauma and addiction. Everyone on this committee is acutely aware of the uphill battle Oregon faces to meet the needs of those with untreated substance use disorder. Your support for House Bill 2143 is a simple and creative way to expand the tools we have to reach more individuals across the state.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of House Bill 2143. Your support means individuals across the state have one more pathway to health and recovery.

Alison Noice, MA, MS, CADCIII
Executive Director
[CODA, Inc](#)