

Submitter: Allyce Barnett
On Behalf Of: SB20
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB20

February 17, 2025
Senate Committee on Human Services
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB20

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the SB20 bill, which allows Oregonians with disabilities to keep Oregon Health Plan coverage while maintaining employment.

As an ICU nurse in Bend, Oregon, I know first hand how each of us is one tragedy away from a life altering experience. Taking away access to necessary treatments from individuals with disabilities due to employment status creates further barriers on an already challenged population. These individuals should not have to choose between their essential medical needs and employment.

I recently started volunteering with the Oregon Adaptive Ski program, which breaks down the barriers for individuals with disabilities so they can participate in Oregon's exceptional recreation. Within the program, we empower disabled athletes to participate in the world we are so privileged to recreate in. Much like the adaptive ski program, I believe it is our duty to provide these services so that medical barriers do not prohibit this vulnerable population from participating in our workforce.

Sincerely,

Allyce Barnett