

Submitter: Josie Boggs
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2554

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House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for HB 2554 – Social Work Licensure Compact

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair's Javadi and Nelson, and Members of the Committee, My name is Josie Boggs, and I am a licensed social worker working for the VA; I am practicing in OR but licensed in ID. I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 2554, which would allow Oregon to join the Social Work Licensure Compact.

I have lived in Oregon for five years and worked for the Veteran's Health Administration during that time. I would like to transfer my licensure from Idaho to Oregon so that I can provide supervision to potential social workers, provide additional clinical care during my volunteer work, etc. However, due to the significant barriers to transferring my licensure I have not been able to do so.

Oregon is a state I would love to practice in, but the current licensure process presents significant challenges for out-of-state professionals like myself. The Social Work Licensure Compact would make Oregon a more attractive option by allowing me to bring my skills and experience to the state without unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. This is especially important in a time when the demand for social work services is growing, and every state needs to ensure it has enough qualified professionals.

I urge the Oregon Legislature to pass HB 2554 and make the state more accessible to social workers from across the country. This bill will not only benefit professionals like me but also improve access to care for Oregonians in need. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Josie Boggs, LCSW
