

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

Arya Roerig
8018 NE 91st Ave
Vancouver, WA
98662
2/19/2025

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 Arya Roerig and I am currently a social work student at Metropolitan State University in Denver. I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 2554, which would allow Oregon to join the Social Work Licensure Compact. While I currently live in Washington state, I work in Oregon and plan on getting licensed as an LCSW in the state while working with individuals struggling substance use disorder. Family obligations require me to live in Washington while working in Oregon and an interstate compact would drastically improve the number of people I am able to treat.

As a student preparing to enter the field of social work, I am deeply invested in ensuring that our licensure system is both modern and accessible. The passage of HB 2554 would create greater mobility for future social workers like myself, allowing us to practice in other compact states without additional barriers. This flexibility is particularly important in today's evolving workforce, where opportunities in telehealth and cross-state services are growing.

The demand for social workers continues to increase across the country, and as a soon-to-be graduate, I want to be able to provide care where it is needed most—whether that be in Oregon or other states participating in the compact. The passage of this bill would give me and my fellow students the confidence that our hard-earned degrees and licenses will allow us to serve communities without unnecessary delays or financial burdens.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB 2554 to support the next generation of social workers and the communities we are eager to serve. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Arya Roerig