



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Medical Board

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## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 873

**Senate Committee on Health Care  
February 20, 2025**

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden and Members of the Health Care Committee,

Senate Bill 873 proposes to repeal ORS 677.120 to remove outdated, unused, and unneeded regulations to clean up the statute and save agency resources. The Oregon Medical Board's Volunteer Emeritus license was obviated in recent years. **At present, zero (0) out-of-state physicians hold a Volunteer Emeritus license with the OMB.** As an alternative, House Bill 4096 (2022) created an authorization for out-of-state physicians to practice in Oregon for up to 30 days each calendar year *without charge*, see ORS 676.347. Compared to the volunteer practice now allowed in ORS 676.347, the Volunteer Emeritus license is more restrictive, costly, and cumbersome for out-of-state physicians.

In addition, the OMB has a large population of Emeritus licensees, who are distinct from Volunteer Emeritus licensees. Because these two licenses have similar titles, medical providers, health care administrators, and members of the public are often confused about the differences between the two "emeritus" licenses. Repealing the unneeded Volunteer Emeritus license will improve the public's understanding of the various medical licenses.

Finally, continuing the Volunteer Emeritus license would require precious agency resources to maintain a separate license pathway that is not needed, and to include this unused license type in the development of our new database. The agency can save resources if it can avoid building out this license pathway in the agency's new database.

**SB 873 repeals ORS 677.120 because there is no need for the provisions in the agency's current regulatory scheme. SB 873 also removes reference to this statute in ORS 677.110.**

THE OREGON MEDICAL BOARD RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THE  
COMMITTEE'S SUPPORT BY MOVING SB 873 TO THE  
SENATE FLOOR WITH A "DO PASS" RECOMMENDATION.

Nicole Krishnaswami, Executive Director  
Oregon Medical Board

*The mission of the Oregon Medical Board is to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of Oregonians by regulating the practice of medicine in a manner that promotes access to quality care.*