

Submitter: Julie Ruchniewicz
On Behalf Of: Health Ministries Association
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB529

Dear Senator Patterson,

I am a Faith Community Nurse of over 16 years and the Executive Director of a national organization, Health Ministries Association. I completely support Senate Bill 529 in its entirety.

From my extensive experience I see this bill an impressive step toward creating health equity, especially for the underserved population of Oregon.

After working on the revision of Faith Community Nursing Scopes and Standards 2025 and seeing the trajectory Faith Community Nursing is on, with tele-health, opioid crisis, and pandemics (like Covid), to name a few, this bill allows us to continue and even further our important work. The value of this group of nurse specialists is growing exponentially and care passionately so reimbursement is key to keeping this essential work alive and performing optimally.

We are grateful for the opportunity this Bill provides for Faith Community Nursing and to the state of Oregon and urge you to pass Senate Bill 529.

Thank you,
Julie Ruchniewicz