

Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jean Le, and I am your population-based nurse supporting Parkrose School District and Portland Public Schools. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB2423, which will establish the School-Based Health Professionals Taskforce to ensure that licensing board rules accurately reflect the realities of working in school settings.

For example, the process of completing delegation on diabetic care to non-independent students across multiple school sites does not align with reality of school-based practice. Nurses can not meet the demand of supervising school staff performing diabetic care with students to ensure the student's safety and unlicensed assistance personnel's proficiency of care completed when these students are at different schools with conflicting lunch times. As a result, there is an inequity in health care for students. Additionally, this is a barrier to access their education because a delay of care delays their return to the classroom. More importantly, I have seen how the delay of care can disrupt students' socioemotional skills practice with peers and self-esteem because their recess time is cut short having to wait for diabetic care.

HB2423 will help align school-based practices with licensing standards, ensuring professionals to feel empowered in their roles in order to navigate school settings and better serve students. When clear expectations are outlined for school-based health professionals, we are better equipped to collaborate within inter-/intradisciplinary teams to develop dynamic plans, support students safely, and ensure equitable and quality care is provided.

I urge you to support HB2423 so that Oregon's licensing boards can establish clear, appropriate guidelines for school-based health professionals, improving both professional retention and student access to necessary services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jean Le, BSN, RN