

## **HB 2423 Written Testimony Template**

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

My name is Bethany Durbin, and I am the District Nurse for Yoncalla School District. 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.

Working in the school based setting presents unique challenges, ranging from behaviors to critical assessment of health conditions. In my practice as the nurse for a small, rural district I find that I am the primary point for healthcare for students and families, and sometimes the only healthcare. The limited scope of practice for independent nursing tasks, such as something as simple as removing a splinter, severely inhibits the care of students. Most of our families cannot afford an extra trip to urgent care for something simple and will therefor leave it untreated and allowed to decline. Many of our families have had to incur a medical bill for something that could have been taken care of as an independent nursing task, severely impacting the families wellbeing. This committee would allow for the review of nursing tasks and determine what may be safe for independent practice in the school setting.

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,**  
**Bethany Durbin, RN**  
**Yoncalla School District #32**

For questions or assistance, please contact **Cynthia Branger Muñoz** at **[cynthia.branger-munoz@oregoned.org](mailto:cynthia.branger-munoz@oregoned.org)**.

Thank you for advocating for school-based health professionals!