

March 12, 2025

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

My name is Tanya Martin and I am a registered nurse in the K-12 school setting in Springfield Oregon. I have been a nurse for 14 years, with 8 years dedicated to school nursing. I am writing to express my strong support for **HB 2423**, which will establish the **School-Based Health Professionals Taskforce** to ensure that licensing board rules accurately reflect the realities of working in school settings.

As a school nurse, I play a critical role in ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of students with diverse medical needs. Prior to becoming a school nurse, I worked in an inpatient pediatric unit at Riverbend Hospital. My initial transition into school nursing was extremely difficult, not just because of the setting change, but also due to the lack of clarity around how my practice requirements fit into the school nursing. Since then, I have witnessed many nurses who are new to school nursing, struggle with the same things, and unfortunately some leave the school setting for fear that their license isn't safe while practicing in this very unique setting that isn't accurately reflected in their licensing boards requirements.

HB 2423 would ensure 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 reading this testimony. I hope you can support HB 2423.

Respectfully,



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