

**LISA REYNOLDS, MD**  
**STATE SENATOR**  
**District 17**



**OREGON STATE SENATE**

**Testimony in Support of SB 24: DOC Medical Staffing Bill**

March 13, 2025  
Senate Committee on Health Care  
3:00 p.m., Hearing Room B

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

For the record, my name is Lisa Reynolds, and I represent SD - 17, West Portland and communities in Northeastern Washington County.

I have been a pediatrician for 20-plus years, and I continue to practice when the legislature is not in session. As both a legislator and a physician, I am in strong support of SB 24 which would improve medical services in our correctional facilities.

Time and time again, mandating minimum staffing levels has proven to improve the conditions of both patients and healthcare staff. In the medical world, there are very few one-sided problems. More often than not, supporting our healthcare providers also leads directly to better patient care.

And, medical professionals in correctional facilities are no different from medical professionals in other areas, and as such, deserve to be advocated for and protected. This can be done through ensuring that wages are fair, as well as securing appropriate staffing ratios.

These safety measures proposed in SB 24 add a new level of security to these vital jobs within correctional facilities. It is my honest belief that if we make sure our caretakers feel safe and secure within their jobs, they will in turn be able to provide the best care possible. I'm talking empathic medical care that is vital to the restoration that we strive for for our adults in custody. I urge this committee and Oregon to support medical staffing in the Department of Corrections through support for SB 24.

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