



MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Rob Nosse, Chair, House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee
Rep. Travis Nelson, Vice-Chair, House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee
Rep. Cyrus Javadi, Vice-Chair, House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee
Members of the House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee

From: Courtni Dresser, Vice President of Government Relations

Date: March 18, 2025

Re: OMA Comments on HB 3912

The **Oregon Medical Association (OMA)** represents and advocates for more than 7,000 physicians, physician associates, and medical and PA students across Oregon. Our mission is to support our members in their efforts to practice medicine effectively, improve the health of Oregonians, and provide the highest quality patient care.

We appreciate the committee's consideration of **HB 3912**, which seeks to update the **Doctor Title Act** to ensure the appropriate use of the title "doctor" within the health care system. This is fundamentally a **consumer information bill**—its purpose is to provide patients with transparent information that helps them understand the qualifications and credentials of their health care providers. Many health care professions have varying levels of training and certification, and the use of the title "doctor" can sometimes lead to confusion. The original **Doctor Title Act** was enacted to require individuals using the title to specify their doctoral degree in advertising materials.

HB 3912 builds upon this by expanding the requirement to include social media and professional name badges.

This update is essential for several reasons:

- **Patient Clarity & Transparency:** Clearly indicating the type of credential a provider holds helps patients make informed decisions about their health care. It ensures they understand the qualifications and expertise of their providers, fostering greater trust in the system.
- **Standardization Across Platforms:** By adding social media to the statute, HB 3912 ensures uniformity in how professional titles are presented. This helps reduce confusion in an era where information is widely disseminated across multiple platforms.

- **Empowering Patient Choice:** When patients have clear and accurate information about their providers' credentials, they can make choices that best align with their health care needs and preferences.

HB 3912 is a straightforward but important update that enhances transparency and consistency in health care communication. We strongly urge the committee to support this bill to ensure that all individuals using the title "doctor" in a health care setting provide clear and accurate information about their qualifications.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) is the state's largest professional organization engaging in advocacy, policy, community-building, and networking opportunities for Oregon's physicians,

physician associates medical students, and physician associate students. The OMA's members speak with one voice as they advocate for policies that improve access to quality patient care, reduce administrative burdens on medical professionals, and improve the health of all Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.