

Submitter: Brian O'Connor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB537

Thank you for the opportunity to offer support of Senate Bill 537. My name is Brian O'Connor and I am a registered nurse and a member of Oregon Nurses Association who works for Multnomah County Health Department. Over the years of being a nurse I have been in numerous different roles and areas of nursing. This bill is essential to prevent workplace violence for those caregivers who want to help sick people. As a nurse who has worked in a hospital setting I never knew what was going to happen as I walk into a patients room or who would attack me. I have been a victim of workplace violence numerous times. I left hospital setting because of workplace violence and management did not take it serious. Healthcare workers experience 5x more workplace violence than other workers in other industries. Many healthcare workers do not report workplace violence issues as "it's part of the job." Many of my healthcare worker friends and myself still to this day experience workplace violence daily. I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 537. Thank you