



March 12, 2025

Senate Committee on Health Care

Re: SB 27

Position: Support

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB 27, which includes ongoing funding for the Essential Worker Healthcare Trust (EWHT). As an employer in Oregon's long-term care sector, Evergreen Healthcare Group understands the critical role that access to high-quality, affordable healthcare plays in attracting and retaining a stable workforce. EWHT has been instrumental in providing comprehensive and cost-effective healthcare benefits to caregivers, which are essential for recruiting and retaining the workforce needed to care for some of the most vulnerable Oregonians.

Ongoing investment in the EWHT is an investment in Oregon's long-term care workforce, ensuring that we can continue to provide quality care to those who need it most. I urge you to support SB 27 and its amendment to sustain this critical program.

Sincerely,

Joe Reese

Joe Reese, Chief Operations Officer
Evergreen Healthcare Group