



March 27, 2025

To: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

From: Emerson Hamlin, Political Organizer, Oregon Nurses Association

Re: HB 3225

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Javadi and Nelson, and members of the committee:

My name is Emerson Hamlin, and I am submitting testimony on behalf of the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA). ONA represents a diverse community of more than 24,000 nurses and health care professionals throughout Oregon. Together, we use our collective power to advocate for a more effective, affordable and accessible health care system; better working conditions for all health care professionals; and healthier communities.

ONA appreciates the intention behind HB 3225. Healthcare professionals must have the power to make healthcare decisions, rather than management services organizations or other private equity entities. Similarly, healthcare professionals have seen the negative impacts of out-of-state healthcare companies entering Oregon and prioritizing their profit margin over patient care. Nurse practitioners (NPs), registered nurses, clinicians, and other healthcare professionals take pride in caring for their neighbors. They want to keep healthcare local, and patient centered.

However, HB 3225 is presently drafted to apply only to physicians, not NPs. NPs in Oregon have had full practice authority, meaning that they can prescribe, diagnose, and treat patients without physician oversight, since the 1990s. Accordingly, many NPs serve their communities by owning their own practices. Solely from a perspective of parity, all requirements related to professional corporations organized for the purpose of practicing medicine should apply equally to physicians, NPs, and all others with full practice authority. ONA strongly urges this committee to amend HB 3225 to be NP-inclusive, not specific to physicians. Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Emerson Hamlin