



April 24, 2025

**OCCYSHN**  
Oregon Center for Children and  
Youth with Special Health Needs

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

**We are writing on behalf of the Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN) to express our strong support for HB 2948.**

In Oregon, approximately 1 in 5 children and adolescents have special health care needs. As Oregon's public health agency for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN), we are committed to strengthening systems and policies that serve them. HB 2948 will have a direct, positive impact on the experiences of CYSHCN in Oregon's schools, improving their health and well-being, and positively impacting their educational experience, including the impacts of absenteeism.

HB 2948 would permit only registered nurses to supervise clinical nursing tasks, providing language that supports both student safety and aligns with professional nursing standards. CYSHCN frequently require medications and/or medical treatments to be administered during the school day. They also face a higher risk of experiencing a medical emergency while at school. For these children and their families, attending school represents a profound act of reliance on the school's ability to provide safe, consistent and necessary care. HB 2948 will ensure that those making decisions around the medical needs of these students are fully qualified, with the appropriate education, credentials, and experience to do so. **Ensuring that only licensed and qualified health professionals oversee clinical nursing tasks will not only reduce risks, but also ensure that students receive appropriate, quality care.**

**HB 2948 also clarifies roles for both nurses and administrators.** Schools are comprised of highly educated individuals who work together as a team with families to make decisions about the education, care, and safety of all children who attend. Each member of this team requires specific training and expertise to ensure their competence and capability, and to achieve optimal outcomes for students. **HB 2948 ensures that nurses adhere to the standards set forth by the Nurse Practice Act and work within their scope of practice.** It also respects the knowledge and authority of administrators, allowing them to support school nurses by overseeing non-clinical tasks such as scheduling and adherence to school policies.

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We at OCCYSHN are devoted to ensuring that the 226,324 Oregon children and youth with special health care needs have the opportunity to thrive, including while at school. We appreciate the care that you show for Oregon's children and urge your support for HB2948 to ensure that students with special health care needs receive safe and appropriate medical care at schools.

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Sincerely,

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Source:

Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative. 2022-2023 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) data query. Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). Retrieved 04/23/2505 from <https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/results?q=11051&r=39>