Submitter:	Shasta Kearns Moore
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB2948

Testimony for HB 2948

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Javadi and Nelson, and Members of the Committee,

Hello, my name is Shasta Kearns Moore. I am a writer and advocate focused on issues affecting Medicaid, medically fragile children, and children with neurodiversity. I am also the parent of twins, both of whom require complex medical and psychological interventions.

For four years, my children were unable to attend school in person because the necessary supports to ensure their safety and success were not in place. This absence from the classroom took a significant toll on our family. Thankfully, they are now back in school, and while the situation is going reasonably well, challenges persist.

I urge you to support HB 2948, which ensures that only a registered nurse may supervise a nurse in a school setting for matters related to the practice of nursing. Children today face an unprecedented range of complex medical needs, and school nurses play an essential role in their care. Decisions regarding nursing practices require the expertise and judgment of a qualified registered nurse.

I have personally experienced how administrative decisions and bureaucracy can impact the quality of care for medically fragile children. For example, my son, who relies on a G-tube for nutrition and hydration, requires someone with the ability to make critical, informed decisions about his care. Entrusting certain decisions to individuals who lack the appropriate medical training puts children like him at unnecessary risk.

HB 2948 is an essential step toward ensuring that the unique medical needs of children in schools are met safely and appropriately. I respectfully ask for your support in passing this legislation to protect the health and well-being of Oregon's children.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Shasta Kearns Moore