

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1570-1

To: Senate Committee on Health Care

From: April Milan, DPT

Date: February 5, 2026

Chair Senator Patterson, Vice-Chair Senator Hayden, and Members of the Committee:

My name is April Milan, DPT, and I am a hospital worker in the greater Portland metro area. I reside in House District 46 and am writing in strong support of SB 1570 with the -1 amendment.

I live mere blocks from where federal agents shot two people in a hospital parking lot this January. That day, a medical facility—a place that should represent safety and healing—became the site of violence and fear. The shooting occurred steps from where patients and healthcare workers enter seeking care and providing care.

As a hospital worker, I understand that trust is fundamental to patient care. Patients must feel safe walking through our doors, disclosing sensitive health information, and making medical decisions without fear. When federal agents conduct operations at healthcare facilities without following hospital protocols—entering restricted areas, bypassing standard procedures, and interfering with patient care—it doesn't just disrupt operations, it fundamentally breaks the trust that makes healing possible.

Recent federal policy changes have eliminated long-standing "sensitive location" protections, allowing immigration enforcement actions in hospitals. When patients fear that seeking medical care could lead to immigration consequences, they delay treatment. They avoid emergency rooms. They don't disclose critical health information. As a healthcare provider, I see the consequences: conditions that could have been treated early become medical emergencies.

All patients—regardless of immigration status—have the right to privacy and necessary medical care. Healthcare workers are not and should not be immigration enforcers. Our job is to provide medical care based on clinical need, not to investigate or report on our patients' immigration status. SB 1570-1 protects this fundamental principle by treating immigration status as protected health information and prohibiting us from being forced to disclose this information to immigration authorities.

Right now, there is no clear statewide standard protecting patients and hospital workers when immigration enforcement actions occur at healthcare facilities. This creates confusion, compromises patient safety, and puts healthcare workers in impossible positions. We need a clear and enforceable statewide standard that protects both patients and hospital workers and assures patient care is never compromised by immigration enforcement.

SB 1570-1 Provides Essential Protections

The amended version of SB 1570 establishes those clear, enforceable protections that hospitals desperately need:

- Restricts immigration enforcement access to non-public patient care areas unless required by court order or judicial warrant
- Protects sensitive health information by treating immigration status and country of birth as protected health information that cannot be disclosed to immigration authorities without a court order
- Requires clear protocols for facilities to follow when immigration authorities arrive, including designating supervisors to respond, verifying credentials and warrants, and consulting legal counsel
- Protects healthcare workers from retaliation when we provide patients with accurate information about their constitutional rights and available legal services—affirming that we are not immigration enforcers

These aren't theoretical concerns. These protections address the real chaos and fear that occurs when enforcement actions happen at healthcare facilities without proper oversight or accountability.

Living in the shadow of what happened at Adventist Health, I know firsthand that these concerns are urgent and real. Healthcare facilities must remain places where anyone can seek care without fear. Healthcare workers need protection when we inform patients of their rights and refuse to act as immigration enforcers—both of which are essential to providing ethical, quality care.

SB 1570-1 ensures that Oregon's healthcare facilities remain places of healing and trust while establishing the clear statewide standard we desperately need to protect patient privacy, maintain care standards, and support healthcare workers.

I urge your support for SB 1570-1.

Sincerely,  
April Milan, DPT  
Portland, Oregon  
House District 46