

Submitter: Amanda Duncan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1570

I am a long-time resident of Oregon and am writing in support of the Healthcare Without Fear Act (SB 1570). All of our community members should be able to access healthcare without fear or intimidation, and healthcare providers should be able to do their critical, often life-saving, work without distraction or interference from immigration enforcement. The presence of ICE in and around healthcare facilities creates a threatening environment for everyone that is not conducive to recovery and healing. It targets people at their most vulnerable moments under already difficult circumstances. Not only is this inhumane for the individuals directly affected, if trust in the healthcare system is lost for a significant segment of our society, it threatens public health as a whole: immunizations are skipped, diseases are left untreated, and safety issues are created.

SB 1570 would ensure that health care facilities have a clear plan for how to respond if immigration officers appear at the facility, prevent federal immigration officers from entering patient care areas without a warrant, and help protect the privacy of patients.

Vote to support community safety, patient privacy, and patient care. Vote “yes” on SB 1570.

Thank you,
Amanda Duncan