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

I am a nurse who works in a hospital in Hillsboro, Oregon as a float nurse, so I care for people throughout the hospital. I am a nurse who works with diverse populations, and I am concerned not only for the safety of my patients and coworkers but also because there appears to have been a sharp reduction in non-English speaking patients seeking medical assistance. Our patients are not feeling safe seeking necessary and life saving medical care. The unprecedented actions of aggressive ICE enforcement are striking at the heart of our healthcare system, when people do not feel safe seeking healthcare. This is not good.

Healthcare providers also fear not only aggressive immigration tactics targeting our patients, but also for our own personal safety. This bill would protect both providers and patients and allow providers to provide necessary education per our professional assessment.

While not a perfect solution, this bill would be a step in the right direction, toward safety and justice in healthcare settings and help rebuild damaged trust.