

Tanya Miller, RN
February 10th, 2026

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 1570-1

To the Senate Health Care Committee:

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the committee, my name is Tanya Miller. **I write in support of SB 1570-1.** These views are my own and do not represent any current or former employer.

I am a nurse in the Portland metropolitan area caring for kidney, pancreas, and liver transplant patients. Every week, I see how a healthy organ transforms not only the recipient's life, but also the lives of their loved ones. After a transplant, these patients can spend less time in medical appointments and more time with their communities, with a newfound sense of energy and purpose. However, transplant patients must follow a strict medication regimen, and missing or delaying even one dose of their anti-rejection medications can cause the body to reject the new organ, jeopardizing their health and the donor's gift of life.

SB 1570-1 matters because every patient, including transplant patients, should be able to receive healthcare without fear. Being born in America is not a prerequisite for receiving an organ transplant. In-person family support is crucial for transplant patients, because trying to remember their new medication schedule and lifestyle changes is too much for any one person alone to learn. SB 1570-1 is necessary because I would hate for a patient who has waited for years on the transplant list to feel like it isn't safe for either them or their family to stay in the hospital for a prolonged period of time out of fear of facing the misconduct of federal agents.

There is already a documented case of ICE agents putting a transplant patient's health at risk. Earlier this month in Minnesota, ICE arrested Javier Abreu-Vasquez, who had a kidney transplant and went at least four days without his daily anti-rejection medication. I tell my patients every day, "Take Tacrolimus on Time" within 30 minutes of its prescribed window, twice a day. If being late with just one dose is harmful, imagine how much harm has already been done to Mr. Abreu-Vasquez and his new kidney?

We must hold federal officers accountable and ensure that they meet the same legal and ethical standards we expect of our state law enforcement. Healing should never depend on immigration status, and hospitals must remain places of healing.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to share my thoughts. I hope you will support this bill that ensures the safety and dignity of all Oregonians.