

From: Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals.
Re: Support of SB 1570
Date: 2/4/26

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (OFNHP), we write in strong support of SB 1570 with the proposed amendments. OFNHP represents more than 7,000 nurses and healthcare professionals across Oregon and Southwest Washington who provide direct patient care in hospitals, clinics, and community health settings. Our members see firsthand how fear and uncertainty undermine patient health, workplace safety, and trust in the healthcare system.

Healthcare settings must be places of safety, dignity, and healing. SB 1570 takes critical steps to protect that principle by prohibiting the disclosure of immigration status and limiting immigration enforcement activity in non-public healthcare areas. For patients and families, particularly those navigating serious or life-threatening conditions, the sense of safety in a healthcare environment is not abstract. It is foundational to trust, honest communication, and effective care.

SB 1570 also provides much-needed clarity for healthcare workers and facilities. Clear, consistent statewide standards protect patients while ensuring that nurses, clinicians, and support staff are not forced to make legal judgments in high-stress situations while caring for patients in crisis. By strengthening confidentiality protections, treating immigration status and place of birth as protected information, the bill aligns with ethical standards, trauma-informed care, and existing patient privacy principles.

Importantly, this legislation is also about workplace safety. Healthcare workers deserve safe workplaces where they can focus on providing care without fear of intimidation, disruption, or unlawful detention. The presence or perceived threat of immigration enforcement in clinical spaces is unsafe for patients, families, and staff alike.

SB 1570 affirms that healthcare decisions belong to patients and their providers, not armed federal agents. It reinforces the principle that healthcare facilities are places for healing, not detention or deportation, and that all Oregonians deserve access to care without fear.

For these reasons, OFNHP urges your support for SB 1570 as amended. Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to protecting patient safety, confidentiality, and access to care in Oregon.

Sincerely,
Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals