



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Board of Nursing

17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd

Portland, OR 97224-7012

(971) 673-0685

Fax: (971) 673-0684

Oregon.BN.INFO@state.or.us

www.oregon.gov/OSBN

February 11, 2013

Before the
House Committee on Health Care

HB 2130

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding House Bill 2130.

The purpose of HB 2130 is to make changes to the Health Professionals' Services Program (HPSP) for impaired healthcare professionals. The Board is generally supportive of HB 2130, but believes one aspect of the bill needs clarification.

The language in section 2 (5)(e) states that licensees must be required to participate in a 'recommended' treatment plan, but deletes the need for the plan to be approved by an independent third party. The Board is concerned that using the term 'recommended' treatment plan absent the third party could lead to confusion as to who, exactly, would be authorized to make treatment recommendations for licensees in recovery.

An independent third party is a vital component of an impaired health professional program, whether it is a primary care physician or an addiction expert. The Board believes that whoever recommends a treatment plan should be separate from both the HPSP monitoring entity and the Boards that contract with the monitoring entity.

The Board would be glad to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 2130.