



## **Testimony in Support of SB 604 with -4 amendments**

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Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Oregon Nurses Association and Nurse Practitioners of Oregon in support of SB 604 with the -4 amendments.

The -4 amendment is a product of collaborative work and comprise among various providers and health care entities. This amendment directs the Oregon Health Authority to establish—or contract with a qualified entity to establish—a centralized credentialing database that will streamline the credentialing process for providers as well as health care organizations including hospitals and insurers. The current credentialing process varies greatly among health care entities, and as a result, the credentialing process is often time consuming, cumbersome, redundant and expensive.

ONA and NPO support the direction of SB 604 with the -4 amendments and share the goals of decreasing hassle, delay, and redundancy for providers going through the credentialing process. We look forward to fully participating in the advisory group process described in the -4 amendment and ensuring that the steps taken to implement this legislation, and detail the credentialing information required will work well for all providers, including Nurse Practitioners.

ONA and NPO are committed to ensuring that the fees described in the -4 amendment for providers and credentialing organizations that may be required to support the implementation and continuation of a single, statewide credentialing data base are both minimal and reasonable.

Oregon Nurses Association and Nurse Practitioners of Oregon encourage you to support SB 604 with the -4 amendments and look forward to partnering with other stakeholders to make this process and product effective, easy to use, and a vast improvement over the current fragmented system.