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Northwest Permanente, P.C.  
Physicians & Surgeons

Before the Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services  
House Bill 2130—Impaired Health Professional Program

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Northwest Permanente, P. C., Physicians and Surgeons

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Please accept this testimony on behalf of Northwest Permanente, P. C., Physicians and Surgeons, a multi-specialty group practice comprised of over 1,100 physicians and allied clinicians responsible for the medical care of Kaiser Permanente enrollees in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

House Bill 2130 proposes a number of changes to current law concerning the Oregon Health Authority's impaired health professional program. This program monitors licensees' conduct, but does not provide treatment for "impaired" licensees. The program is statutorily required to enroll all health profession licensees who have been diagnosed with alcohol or substance abuse or a mental health disorder.

For the reasons explained in our testimony on HB 2124, we recommend that you not approve HB 2130 and use HB 2124 instead as the vehicle for 2013 legislative action concerning this program.

Thank you for your consideration.