



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

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To: The Honorable Greg Matthews, Chair, House Veterans' Services and Emergency Preparedness Committee

From: Holly Mercer, Interim Director, Oregon Health Licensing Agency

Date: March 7, 2013

Re: **House Bill 2161 – Professional Licensure for Military Spouses/Domestic Partners**

The Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) is a state licensing and regulatory agency providing oversight to multiple volunteer citizen boards and their health and related professions.

The agency believes that House Bill 2161 provides sufficient flexibility to allow for establishing by administrative rule an efficient and streamlined process to determine demonstrated competency and issue authorizations to practice for military spouses or domestic partners who are subject to military transfer to Oregon.

The agency will work with military families to carry out the provisions of this bill if passed into law.

I will be happy to answer any questions you have regarding House Bill 2161 and its impact on the Oregon Health Licensing Agency and the volunteer citizen boards under the agency's oversight.

Contact: Holly Mercer, Interim Director, Oregon Health Licensing Agency – E-mail: holly.mercer@state.or.us; Phone (503) 373-2084