



To: House Committee on Health Care
From: David Walls, Executive Director, Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon
RE: HB 4137

Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon, I would like to testify in support HB 4137.

At a time when we have a critical provider shortage across Oregon, we need to do everything we can to help retain health professionals after graduation, especially in rural Oregon.

The Primary Care Loan Forgiveness program is the only primary care provider incentive program for medical students that focuses exclusively on rural areas, where access to primary care is most difficult to obtain.

Adding \$2.5 million into the program will allow more students around the state to take part in this program and provide added incentive for students who are interested in practicing medicine in rural areas.

The Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon strongly urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,
David Walls