



Testimony in Support of SB 1548

February 17, 2014

House Committee on Health Care

Jack Dempsey

Oregon Nurses Association

Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of Senate Bill 1548, which updates some Oregon Statutes to include Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physician Assistants (PAs) when consistent with the scope of practice of these providers.

Oregon's Nurse Practitioners have earned a broad scope of practice and practice independently, without being supervised by a physician. Nearly 3,000 Nurse Practitioners are licensed to practice in Oregon, and Nurse Practitioners are an important component of Oregon's health care workforce.

SB 1548 is a technical corrections bill. It is not meant to expand the scope of practice or extend new privileges to either NPs or PAs. It is only meant to add NPs and PAs in instances where current statute does not reflect the scope of practice of these providers. ONA is supportive of both the bill and the -1 amendment.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 1548. ONA urges your support.