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February 17, 2014

Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room 331
Salem, OR 97301

RE: **HB 4094**

Dear Senator Prozanski:

As health care professionals with Oregon State University's Student Health Service, we recognize that alcohol is one of the most significant public health concerns facing campuses nationwide. We support HB 4094 because we believe medical amnesty policies are effective in encouraging peers to intervene, and students to seek help, when facing the risk of alcohol overdose.

Many campuses nationwide have adopted such measures as a means to promote student safety. Cornell University, along with the State of New York, implemented similar medical amnesty legislation about ten years ago. Although controlled research on the effectiveness of these policies is limited, an evaluation of the Cornell program found that students were more inclined to call for help and were less inclined to engage in heavy drinking.

At OSU, Student Health Services has a long history of providing research based educational interventions for students who have been referred by Student Conduct and diverted through the courts for alcohol related offenses. This program has demonstrated success in both lowering high-risk drinking and motivating students to make healthier choices. We appreciate that HB 4094 enables institutions to continue to intervene with education programs for students who are transported in a medical emergency. Combined with amnesty, these efforts will enable our campus to address high-risk behavior and help prevent future harm.

We sincerely appreciate this legislative effort to increase student safety and are happy to assist in any way we can in the implementation and evaluation of HB 4094.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JH".

Jenny Haubenreiser
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.C. Reff".

Dr. Rob Reff
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cc: Members of the Committee
Senator Betsy Close
Senator Michael Dembrow
Senator Jeff Kruse
Senator Arnie Roblan
Bill Taylor, Counsel