

Kathleen Haley, JD
Executive Director
Oregon Medical Board
1500 SW 1st Avenue, Suite 620
Portland, OR 97201

January 28, 2015

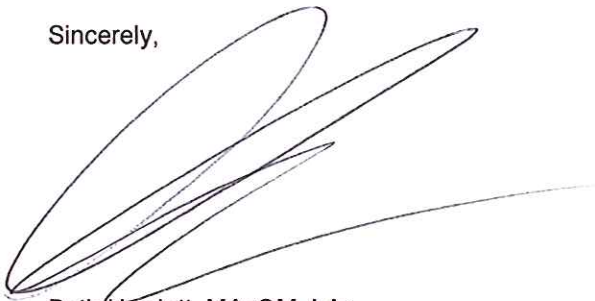
Dear Ms. Haley,

As Board President of the Oregon Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (OAAOM), I wish to express our organization's support for SB 279. Our profession has been regulated by the Oregon Medical Board from the inception of acupuncture licensing. Our relationship to the staff of the Medical Board has been close, and our members have benefited from their assistance. We believe that this relationship would be strengthened, and their ability to assist us would be increased, if the board were semi-independent. We have followed the success of other healthcare licensing boards after achieving this status.

We are also concerned about the potential increases in our licensing fees should operations costs for the OMB continue to rise. We know that semi-independent status would help keep these costs under control.

Please use this letter to inform legislators of our support for SB 279.

Sincerely,



Beth Howlett, MAcOM, LAc
President
Oregon Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine