

Oregon Senate Committee On Health Care

2015 Regular Session, Feb 9, 2015

Oregon Senate Bill 279

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Title of Senate Bill 279: Designates Oregon Medical Board as a semi-independent state agency

Dear Senators:

Against Senate Bill 279

Position Outline

1. Oregon Medical Board needs **more** supervision not less that the Senate Bill 279 would provide them as a semi-independent regulatory state agency.
2. The Alternative Medical Practice Act, passed by this legislature, is consistently ignored by the Oregon Medical Board's disciplinary function, documenting the need for more supervision not less.
3. The power this Medical Board has taken to deny safe, effective alternatives in medical practice is dangerously excessive and needs more oversight not less.
4. Nothing constitutes **any** emergency need for this Medical Board to pursue this proposed legislation. The Oregon Medical Board is already too independent without enough critical oversight to protect qualified alternative medical practitioners from their tyrannical abusive current powers. Allowing further autonomy is ludicrous. It is the wrong direction for needed legislative action.
5. Control of a State Agency's purse strings is vital to needed oversight. Semi-independent stature will provide less legislative control and needed oversight for this state agency. Do not allow this proposal the light of day.
6. Senate Bill 279 only serves the interest of the Oregon Medical Board. It does not provide for the care quality Oregonians deserve. The current process of board member selection for example, excludes Functional Medicine physicians from participation. The ethical conduct of the Board is compromised. This bill creates a worsening condition for the OMB. It does not address the needed reforms.
7. The Oregon Medical Board's attempt for semi-independent status is to be denied. Furthermore, reform of the Board's process and oversight must be implemented during

this 78th legislative session. You will need to increase your oversight of this state agency, provide rules of conduct consistent with civil law and ignore the tyrannical administrative law process the OMB currently conducts itself with. Investigations need more transparency. Punitive disciplinary fines and fees should be restricted to proven criminal acts only.

Thank you Senators for your attention to this important matter. You have the opportunity to make this Oregon Medical Board more accountable to the public interest it was designed to originally serve.

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