



MEMORANDUM

To: Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Sen. Jeff Kruse, Vice-Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Bryan Boehringer, OMA Government Relations

Date: February 11, 2015

Re: Support for SB 386

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) is pleased to SUPPORT SB 386 to help keep medical researchers safe. Oregon researchers are conducting lawful research to find tomorrow's cures for illnesses and conditions that may affect our parents, our friends and our children. These researchers should not face unnecessary threats to them, their family or their homes for doing their job; protecting their personal information from public disclosure mitigates this risk and better protects the worker.

We are fortunate in Oregon to have access to the world class research that is being performed at OHSU and Oregon's National Primate Research Center (ONPRC). OHSU's research, in combination with the work of our members, gives Oregonians access to some of the newest and best treatments available anywhere in the world. In addition, OHSU's scientists are exploring applied research frontiers, environmental and biomedical engineering and information sciences.

Medical advancements have long depended on animal research. Viral diseases controlled or eradicated through animal research and mass vaccination include polio, yellow fever, rabies, diphtheria, measles, tetanus and hepatitis B. Currently, the ONPRC focuses their efforts on the study of neurological disorders such as MS and Parkinson's diseases, research into addressing fertility problems and preventing premature birth and infectious disease research focusing on diseases such as AIDS.

In short, the strength of our members' ability to provide the best care to our patients is directly linked to the quality of medical research being done in Oregon and around the world. That research cannot take place if the people doing the research are not safe.

Our ONPRC member's safety is critical to their ability to perform the important research that they carry out on a daily basis. These members care about this legislation because it will help protect them, their colleagues and their families. The legislature has played an important role in keeping researchers safe, and the OMA encourages your support of SB 386.

The Oregon Medical Association is an organization of over 8,100 physicians, physician assistants, and medical students organized to serve and support physicians in their efforts to improve the health of Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.