

To: Members of the House Health Care Committee

From: Nellie deVries, Government Affairs for Salem Health

Date: February 13, 2015

Re: Please Support HB 2305

Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee,

Salem Health is comprised of Salem Hospital, West Valley Hospital, Willamette Health Partners and other affiliated health care organizations offering exceptional care to people in and around Oregon's mid-Willamette Valley since 1896. Salem Hospital is one of the largest of Oregon's 59 acute care hospitals and operates the busiest emergency department in Oregon. It is a not-for-profit hospital, licensed for 454 acute-care beds.

Salem Health respectfully requests the **support HB 2305**, which creates a combined work experience/education pathway to avoid burdensome licensure requirements that could potentially lead to a shortage of this expertise in the state. Other hospitals across the state have already experienced this shortage, and it is something that needs to be addressed.

HB 2305 maintains the current educational requirements to become a licensed Polysomnographic Technologist including High School graduation, completion of an education or training program, or one that includes both education and training and then passage of an examination approved by the Board.

HB 2305 would allow a person who has met the current combined education and training prerequisites for the national Polysomnographic Technologist credential – a credential the Board already recognizes – and who has maintained that credential to sit for the Board's examination.

Thank you for giving additional consideration to the licensure requirements for Polysomnographic Technologists. Please contact me if you require additional clarification on a specific issue or want to discuss the content of this letter.

Sincerely,

Nellie F. deVries
Government Affairs, Salem Health