



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHAIN DRUG STORES

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Senate
Salem, OR

RE: Senate Bill 148 – Amendment

Dear Senator Monnes Anderson and members of the Senate Committee on Health Care:

On behalf of the members of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) operating in Oregon, I would like to thank you for considering changing the composition of the Oregon State Board of Pharmacy to add a pharmacy technician to its current membership. The sixteen NACDS member companies in Oregon operate over 400 stores, employ over 58,000 full and part-time employees, and pay over \$52 million in state taxes.

NACDS supports Senate Bill 148 without the proposed amendment which would add two pharmacist technicians to the State Board of Pharmacy. Pharmacy technicians in Oregon are licensed by the Board of Pharmacy and currently must have obtained certification. However, technicians are considered “ancillary” personnel and work under the supervision and license of the pharmacist.

In light of this, we feel two technicians, five pharmacists and two public members would not adequately represent the varied pharmacy settings and more importantly, public safety which is the charge of the Board.

If the Honorable members of the Committee feel two additional positions are needed on the Board, we would strongly recommend one be a pharmacy technician, and the other a licensed pharmacist.

As the NW Regional Director for NACDS, I cover ten states, many of which have a technician on their Board of Pharmacy. The technicians are limited to one Board position on each of those Boards and bring a technician’s insight to the discussion of items before the respective Boards.

We are concerned that the ratio of professionals (pharmacists) to non-professionals (technicians and the public members) would be 5:4, which could result in decisions being made that would not be in the best interest of the citizens of Oregon.

We respectfully request that either the original bill go forward as introduced with any minor technical changes needed, or the amendment be changed to add one pharmacist and one technician to the State Board of Pharmacy.

We appreciate your consideration of our concerns.

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