

April 27, 2015

Senate Health Care Committee

Judah Gold Markel PA-C

Chair Monnes Anderson and members of the committee,

I am Judah Gold-Markel, PA-C, and I am here today in support of House Bill 2880.

I have worked at Legacy Health for the past 11 years in the field of Vascular Surgery and Trauma. Initially we looked into changing the laws regarding the use of fluoroscopy about 3-4 years ago. Over the past several years we have been working and gaining consensus on how these changes would be implemented and applied. The use of fluoroscopy and minimally invasive interventions is the future of medicine and essential to allow physician assistants to continue to thrive in the fields that utilize this technology.

I would like to thank the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging for working with me and the Oregon Society of Physician Assistants to develop House Bill 2880. The Board of Medical Imaging deliberated thoughtfully on this issue, convened a workgroup with multiple stakeholders and ultimately voted to approve a proposal that represents a reasonable compromise.

32 states currently allow PAs to practice fluoroscopy. 22 of those states simply have no requirements or regulations for PAs to practice fluoroscopy. With HB 2880, Oregon would join twelve other states that have the most rigorous requirements for PAs to practice fluoroscopy.

House Bill 2880 creates a certification process through the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging. The certification process includes three important components:

Education: In order to obtain a fluoroscopy certificate from OBMI, a PA must complete 80 hours of clinical and didactic training as outlined by The Fluoroscopic Education Framework for the Physician Assistant. This

framework is a national standard created through the collaboration of the American Association of Physician Assistants and American Society of Radiation Technologists.

The education component includes operation safety and important information about radiation biology and exposure limits.

Exam: the PA must pass the exam developed by this same national framework.

Fee: The Board of Medical Imaging will charge a fee to cover the costs of processing the certificate application.

Once the PA obtains a certificate to practice fluoroscopy, that certificate also goes on file at the Oregon Medical Board, which licenses PAs. A supervising physician may only delegate fluoroscopy procedures to PAs who have a certificate. When a PA is practicing fluoroscopy, a radiation technologist or physician must also be in the room, and the PA's supervising physician must be available in the building to assist in an emergency.

I am pleased with House Bill 2880 and the collaborative effort it took to craft this legislation. I urge you to support this bill.

Thank you.