



Testimony in Support of SB 631

April 30, 2015

Jenn Baker

Oregon Nurses Association

Chair Monnes Anderson and members of the committee:

The Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) urges your support of SB 631.

ONA joins the American Nurses Association in support of a comprehensive single payer health care system. ONA recognizes the extraordinary progress that has occurred as a result of the Affordable Care Act and Oregon's health care delivery transformation and wants to continue to build upon the progress we've made to ensure each and every Oregonian has seamless access to quality health care services.

The United States spends—on average—twice as much on health care per person as other western countries and we are the only industrialized country that does not provide universal coverage. Oregon's nurses believe that health care is a basic human right and key component of a thriving community.

Nurses are on the frontlines of Oregon's health care system. As such, they have first-hand knowledge of the effects of the health care crisis and the struggles uninsured Oregonians face in seeking the care they need. ONA supports SB 631 because Oregon's nurses want their focus to be on helping their patients get well. By voting YES on SB 631, you have the opportunity to help Oregon build on our transformation efforts and provide affordable health care for each and every Oregon resident.