



## **Family Physicians support HB 3085**

The Oregon Academy of Family Physicians, representing more than 1,400 family practice doctors in Oregon, supports increased funding for healthcare workforce training programs.

OHSU has one of the best family medicine training programs in the country. But many OHSU medical school graduates have to go out of state for their residency training. As a result, Oregon medical practices and Oregon communities are in a position of having to convince these young physicians to come back to Oregon.

That's not easy. We know from the literature that where a physician completes their residency is the greatest predictor of where that physician will establish their first practice.

We need more primary care residency programs in Oregon.

Oregon's healthcare workforce incentive programs help us entice physicians to set up their practice in rural and underserved parts of the state. The Loan Repayment Program is very effective but it's not enough.

Scholarship programs like Scholars for a Health Oregon and the Loan Forgiveness Program work because medical students commit while they are still in medical school to working in rural or underserved communities in Oregon.

But again, that's not enough.

We need more primary care residency programs, particularly in rural Oregon.

The residency programs in Hood River and Klamath Falls are great models. We just need more.

HB 3085 would provide funding needed to help new residency programs get started.

As you know, family physicians do not work in isolation, especially as they increasingly develop patient-centered primary care homes. They need nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and especially behavioral health providers to provide team-based care for their patients.

HB 3085 would provide funding for new training programs for all of these healthcare providers. We encourage your support.