

Board of Nursing

17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd Portland, OR 97224-7012 (971) 673-0685 Fax: (971) 673-0684 Oregon.BN.INFO@state.or.us www.oregon.gov/OSBN

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Before the House Committee on Health Care

Senate Bill 71

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 71. The purpose of the bill is to clarify the current statutory language by removing passive and negative phrasing in ORS 678.445(1) regarding the administration of noninjectable medications by nursing assistants that currently leads to confusion.

The language in ORS 678.445 is confusing and outdated in relation to current nursing practice. Specifically, the language in (1) is convoluted and negative; it states what the Board won't do to prohibit an act, as opposed to simply stating what the Board will do. It has led to confusion amongst Certified Medication Aides, educators, and employers.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bill.

The Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 71.