



MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Barnhart, Chair, House Committee on Revenue
Rep. Bentz, Vice Chair, House Committee on Revenue
Rep. Smith-Warner, Vice Chair, House Committee on Revenue
Members of the House Committee on Revenue

From: Courtni Dresser, OMA Government Relations Director

Date: May 1, 2017

Re: Support for HB 3085

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our written comments in support of HB 3085. The Oregon Medical Association is committed to supporting the development and retention of an adequate number of well-educated physicians and physician assistants to meet the health care needs of all Oregonians.

Hospitals and clinical practices have difficulty recruiting physicians to Oregon, especially in rural areas. Oregon must 'compete' with every other state with rural opportunities. We know that physicians who are trained in Oregon are more likely to stay here; in fact, research shows where a physician completes their residency is the greatest predictor of where the physician will establish their first practice. Establishing the health care professional training fund, as outlined in HB 3085, ensures that Oregon stays competitive and further incentivizes rural health care practice.

HB 3085 alleviates the burden and expense of starting and/or maintaining residency training programs across the state; which, in turn, assists hospitals and facilities who want to train the next generation of health care professionals. Having adequate training opportunities/placements is Oregon's best shot at keeping these physicians in Oregon, especially in rural areas. HB 3085 ensures Oregonians receive timely and appropriate care where and when they need it, by professionals trained in their communities.

We encourage your support of HB 3085.

The Oregon Medical Association serves and supports over 8,200 physicians, physician assistants and student members in their efforts to improve the health of all Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.