

From the Desk of
Senator
Lee Beyer

FROM THE DESK OF:

June 7, 2021

Health Care Advocates Ask You To Support HB 3036-B The Physician Assistant (PA) Modernization Act

Current statutory requirements and restrictions on Physician Assistants (PA) have resulted in unnecessary administrative burdens on employers who want to employ a PA to provide high quality health care to Oregon patients. The impact of these statutory barriers results in communities across Oregon, particularly rural and underserved communities, having fewer qualified medical providers despite the strong skills and medical training of PA's.

House Bill 3036-B will modernize Oregon's Physician Assistants by:

- Providing greater health care provider access to all Oregonians, especially those in rural and other underserved communities.
- Allowing PAs to practice at the top of their current scope of practice.
- Making it easier for hospitals, clinics, and other employers to hire PAs to serve patients.
- Giving more discretion to local hospitals/clinics/employers, while still allowing employers full autonomy to require a collaboration agreement and/or require supervision, especially of new PAs.
- Making permanent the emergency care practices including telehealth that have been successfully used during this pandemic/emergency.
- Reducing or eliminating duplicative, unnecessary supervision requirements that limit access to health care, especially in rural and other underserved areas.

It is important to note that nothing in this bill will prohibit employers from continuing to hire and manage PAs in whatever manner they deem necessary to ensure patient health and safety.

We urge your support of HB 3036-B to ensure that PAs are able to practice at the top of their license by allowing a PA's employer to determine hiring and management practices, rather than having those practices prescribed by state statute or rule.



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