

March 25, 2021

Oregon State Legislature
Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 556 – In Person Facility Survey & Inspection

Chair Gelser, Vice Chair Anderson, and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery:

On behalf of Oregon's community hospitals and the patients they serve, the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS) appreciates this chance to provide comments on Senate Bill 556 and support of the -2 amendment. SB 556 with the -2 amendment proposes to require "in-person" as opposed to on-site inspections of licensed childcare and health care facilities.

OAHHS supports the -2 amendment as it no longer requires the in-person inspection to be required during a state of emergency. Nothing in this bill prohibits an in-person inspection but allows the agency in a state of emergency to follow CDC and OHA guidance and the merits of the complaint as to whether an in-person investigation is safe and warranted.

Additionally, the -2 amendment removes section 5 from the -1 amendment relating to ORS 441.171 which is nurse staffing complaint investigations. As stated in the -1 amendment, OHA would be responsible for completing an in-person site inspection **and an** investigation. OAHHS believes those are one in the same and not two separate processes. Section 5 referencing ORS 441.171 has been removed from the -2 amendment and ORS 441.157 relating to hospital nurse staffing audit remains in the -2 amendment and would require an in-person as opposed to an on-site audit of each hospital in this state once every three years.

We appreciate the Chair and the committee's consideration of adopting the -2 amendment to SB 556.

Sincerely,



Andi Easton