

Dear Senate Committee on Health Care,

I am writing in support of SB 684, which establishes a task force to investigate how the Oregon Medical Board operates and to make suggestions for improvement to the legislature.

A recent event has prompted me to be in support of such a bill. An Oregon pediatrician, Dr. Paul Thomas, has had his medical license suspended by the Oregon Medical Board after he published an article in a peer-reviewed scientific journal which examined the health outcomes of vaccinated and non-vaccinated or partially-vaccinated children.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33266457/>

The medical and scientific communities have been calling for such research in recent years. It appears to be more than coincidental that Dr. Thomas's medical license would be suspended several days after his article came out.

I have read the charges brought up by the Oregon Medical Board against Dr. Thomas, and these charges do not reflect our experiences of being patients in Dr. Thomas's practice. Many charges appear to question Dr. Thomas's support of informed consent process. However, true informed consent is the highest standard of ethical medical care.

It appears to me that the Oregon Medical Board did not have good reasons to suspend Dr. Thomas's license. However, I, of course, do not have all the details of whether the charges were in fact unfounded. For that reason, I fully support SB 684 so that a task force can examine how the Oregon Medical Board operates. Doing so would ensure a better system of "checks and balances."