

The Oregon Academy of Family Physicians Supports House Bill 2648

Dear Chair Prusak and Members of the House Committee on Health Care,

House Bill 2648 would repeal a law that has outlived its purpose and places a burden on patients, families, and doctors. Oregon is the only state that requires a prescription to purchase common cold and allergy medicines containing pseudoephedrine (PSE) which are available over-the-counter in every other state.

This old law creates cost and inconvenience for our patients who are forced to either take time from work to seek a prescription from a doctor or cross state lines to to visit pharmacies to buy pseudophedrine over the counter.

House Bill 2648 would change that by repealing the existing prescription requirement for these important medications and at allow Oregonians to buy these medicines at local pharmacies like other people already can in 49 other states. It will also set in place reasonable restrictions on how much product an individual can purchase—a model that has proven to be effective elsewhere.

We urge your support of HB 2648.

Sincerely, Sam Barber On behalf of the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians