

Committee Chair Deb Patterson & Sen. HC Committee members,

For the record, my name is Michael Rochlin. I am a RN in Oregon and have decades of acute & ambulatory care experience, as well as 7 years of Policy & Government Affairs experience, helping to restore patient rights in Oregon.

I serve as Director of the Oregon Cannabis Clinicians Group (OCCG), on the Oregon Cannabis Commission (OCC) Governance Subcommittee (SC), a member of the City of Portland Cannabis Policy Oversight Team - CPOT (Chair of the CPOT Competency SC), and a Board of Director for the National American Cannabis Nurses Association-ACNA (Chair the ACNA Policy & Government Affairs Committee).

This testimony is my own professional opinion and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the organizations mentioned previously.

I support HB 3369 A.

This Bill is needed to clarify statute for the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN). It will help protect Nurse and Patient rights with truthful education about the science of the endocannabinoid system (ECS), including benefits and risk with medical use of cannabis.

Cannabis is legal for medical & adult use in Oregon, but according to a an interpretive statement from OSBN (previous testimony at HHCC contained statement), “only a Physician” may discuss the use of (cannabis)...” for medical reasons with patients. I testified on this OSBN statement during a hearing on SB758, before HB3369A was changed. I have included a copy of the OSBN statement with my testimony (below) for your review.

The OSBN needs the clarification in this Bill for Nurses to be able to educate our patients with facts about cannabis, without a fear of impact to Nurse licensure and Practice.

Nurses need this important stand-alone bill for OSBN to then permit Nurses to discuss ALL treatments, including cannabis for medical use, with their patients.

Counseling Clients About the Use of Marijuana (Including CBD Oil) for the Alleviation of Symptoms Related to Illness or Injury

Oregon statutes and rules regarding the use of marijuana state that only a physician may discuss the use of marijuana for the alleviation of symptoms for specific diseases. It would be a violation of state regulation for any licensee of the Oregon State Board of Nursing to **discuss or recommend** the use of marijuana for the alleviation of disease symptoms or symptoms due to injury to any patient or client. This also included cannabis-derived CBD oil. This does not apply to products derived from Hemp.

OAR 851-045-0060 (5) of the Nurse Practice Act requires that nurses advocate for the client's right to appropriate and accurate information. In the nursing function of **discharge education**, if the client discloses that they use recreational marijuana, the nurse must know and explain the interactions between marijuana and the client's prescribed medication. It is incumbent of every nurse to understand the effects of marijuana and how those effects could place the client **at risk**, particularly if a prescription is for controlled substances. Discharge teaching regarding interaction of marijuana with prescription medications is not the same as counseling the client on the use of marijuana for alleviation of symptoms.

Approved by the OSBN: Nov 2019