

Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Subcommittee on Education  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

May 5, 2021

Dear Members of the Subcommittee on Education,

The Oregon Dental Association, representing 2,100 dentists across the state, fully supports Senate Bill 5528, the budget for Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU).

Over half of our members graduated from the OHSU School of Dentistry. We know first-hand the important role the school plays in our community and state. OHSU trained us, taught us, and mentored us, helping us become the dentists we are today. And now, many of us have the opportunity to mentor and support today's students.

OHSU School of Dentistry is filled with professionals dedicated to ensuring that dental students graduate ready to meet the oral health needs of our state. Further, the school is critical to ensuring Oregon's dental workforce needs are met, both now and in the future.

In addition to the DMD program at OHSU, the school offers six advanced education programs, including: Endodontology, General Practice Residency, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, and Periodontology. These offerings draw students from across the country to study and practice in Oregon, diversifying our future workforce.

OHSU is a valued partner with the ODA and dentists across the state. OHSU provides real leadership on dental issues affecting both our profession and the general population's health. **We encourage your full support of SB 5528.**

Sincerely,



Brad Hester, DMD  
Oregon Dental Association President  
OHSU School of Dentistry Class of 1987