

Submitter: Eva Splichalova
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB4142

I have been working in Emergency Nursing for over 12 years. I can't tell you how many times me and my colleagues got punched kicked spitted on, thrown urinals, splashed blood, had broken arm concussion, thrown computers and chairs at us, etc., by our patients. Every time we try to report these adults we are discouraged by police officers, because they know it won't lead to anywhere, and if it does, our DA in Portland will throw it away and I am sure it's same around Oregon. There is no responsibility and accountability for people who come assault health care workers. It is assault and felony if you assault Trimet driver, Police officer, Firefighter, etc, why not health care worker? The lowest of the low was when when my co-worker who has cancer still shows up at work and care for people get assaulted and punched in face by one of these individuals that then not even get charged but walks away like it's ok. Day after day we are all like her, and year after year it gets worst and we have no say and continue to be abused. Nursing had lead efforts to change this several time and our legislators had failed us. We have seen other states around us like Washington and California implement these laws to protect us, but not here in Oregon! I urge you please take a stand for your health care workers in this matter! I am sure you wouldn't want your loved ones to be beaten up at their places of work, neither you would want to be subject to it yourself. Why do you then not allow same respect to your health care workers?