



House Committee on Health Care
900 Court St NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

February 9, 2022

Chair Prusak, Vice Chairs Hayden and Salinas, and Members of the House Health Committee,

The Oregon Dental Association (ODA) is the professional trade association representing over 2100 practicing Oregon dentists in all corners of the state. Our members are committed to increasing access to dental care, often donating free dental services and supplies for Oregon's most vulnerable citizens. This is why we write today in **support of HB 4096**.

Across Oregon, volunteer dentists set up free dental clinics where they donate their time and resources providing free dental care to those who need it. For many of these clinics, particularly closer to the border, they are joined by dentists from other states. Unfortunately, under the current statute, out-of-state dentists are only allowed to volunteer their time in Oregon for 5 consecutive days. HB 4096 allows out-of-state dentists (as well as other health care practitioners) to provide uncompensated care to patients in Oregon for up to 15 days throughout the year without the days required to be consecutive.

Oral health care is a critical part of a person's overall well-being, but some face barriers when it comes to receiving proper dental care. Allowing our dental colleagues to visit Oregon and provide free dental care will continue to help those most in need.

We thank Representative Hayden and the other sponsors of HB 4096 for bringing this bill forward, and we thank the Committee for its consideration. On behalf of our members, ODA respectfully urges **support of HB 4096**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Calie Roa', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Calie Roa, DMD

President