

January 31, 2023 Statement in <u>SUPPORT</u> of <u>House Bill 2468</u> Pharmacy Technician Immunizations Shawn Miller, Northwest Grocery Association

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Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee,

NWGA serves as the leading advocate for the grocery retail and supplier industry in the Pacific Northwest, representing Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Collectively NWGA members employ more than 44,000 people at more than 409 locations across Oregon. Our membership includes the retailers, pharmacies, wholesalers, brokers, manufacturers, and suppliers that support the Pacific Northwest's grocery industry.

House Bill 2468 simply extends the ability for pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines, under the supervision of a pharmacist once the federal emergency order that expires this year.

Pharmacies are trusted providers in our local communities, providing thousands of vaccines. Throughout the pandemic, Oregon turned to our local pharmacy partners who quickly mobilized to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to thousands of Oregonians. With the increase in the number of vaccines administered, it is imperative that Oregon continue to allow technicians to do this important work in our communities.

Please SUPPORT HB 2486.

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