

January 31, 2023

Chairman Robert Nosse
Oregon State House
House Behavior Health and Health Care Committee

Re: Support for HB 2486

Dear Chairman Nosse,

I am writing on behalf of Walgreen Co and its employees in Oregon in strong support of your legislation HB 2486, which would allow pharmacy technicians to administer immunizations under the supervision of the pharmacist in charge.

Idaho was the first state to allow pharmacy technicians to administer immunizations in 20016 and since then nine states have allowed for this expansion, which creates more access for patients seeking care. Due to this authority being extended to all pharmacies during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, it is estimated 38% of all COVID-19 vaccine doses provided at pharmacies were administered by technicians.

Despite a growing need for increased access to patient care services, community pharmacists spend only 21% of their professional time performing patient care services that are not associated with dispensing prescriptions. To further optimize the pharmacist's role in delivering patient-centered, collaborative care in communities, pharmacists must effectively reallocate their time, resources, and utilization of pharmacy technicians.

With the advent of state licensure and registration requirements, recognized training programs and a formal certificate offered by a national credentialing organization, policymakers can feel confident in the training and oversight to allow pharmacy technicians to administer immunizations. We greatly appreciate your efforts to make this authority permanent.

We would like to thank you and House Behavior Health and Health Care Committee for your attention to this matter, which is vital for our communities and access to health care.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kurrie
Senior Director, Government Relations
Walgreen Co.

cc: Members of the Oregon House Behavior Health and Health Care Committee