



February 8, 2023

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Oregon Nurses Association. ONA is Oregon's oldest and largest nursing union and professional association, and we are proud to represent 15,000 health care providers, including RNs, advanced practice nurses, and allied health workers.

Our members believe that everyone deserves access to the healthcare they need, when they need it, at affordable rates. Regardless of how rare or unique an individual's condition is, they deserve to receive treatment that enables them to be healthy and live a meaningful life. It is for this reason that ONA is supportive of SB 620, which requires health benefit plans and contracts to cover IVIG for treating PANDAS/PANS.

Currently, Oregon insurers are refusing to cover IVIG, even though it is already covered by Medicaid, and ten other states have passed legislation ensuring that children have access to this care. Every child in Oregon deserves to receive the treatment they need, without exceptions. ONA urges a yes vote on SB 628.

Sincerely,

Emerson Hamlin

Political Organizer, Oregon Nurses Association