

Submitter: Chavvah Rutherford

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2408

Good afternoon,

I am writing in opposition to HB 2408; Enacts interstate Nurse Licensure Compact.

By entering the compact it would allow nurses who may not meet the basic requirements of the OSBN for licensure.

I am a nurse, I initially trained in Australia and had been out of nursing for some time. To get my license here I had to not only provide evidence of my degree and work history, but I also had to complete a re-entry course.

I fully support this requirement as changes happen at a rapid rate in healthcare and it is vital that nurses are up to date with their skills and knowledge to ensure patient safety.

By entering into the compact it will allow nurses from other states who may not have practiced for years to come here to work with Oregonians at one of their worst periods, ill and in need of quality medical and nursing care.

An example of this is the state of Alabama.

This website <https://www.abn.alabama.gov/apply/> is their portal to apply.

For reinstatement of a nursing license, all they require is 24 hours of CEU's. While continuing education is important, it can only go so far in ensuring a nurse is safe, and qualified to practice.

There are no minimum practice hours required, whereas the OSBN does require a minimum of 400 hours for renewal of licensure.

This is particularly worrying with the nursing shortage currently being experienced around the country.

Hospitals and other facilities may employ nurses who aren't up to the standard Oregon has set.

This will endanger patient safety.

Oregon should work to encourage would be nurses within Oregon, it should not lower its standards simply because a small percentage of nurses may like to travel out of the state.

Thank you

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