

Submitter: Koree Leisenring

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2927

Dear House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

I am Koree Leisenring, a Registered Nurse at Oregon Health and Science University. I have the honor of caring for children and adolescents with Sickle Cell Disease. I write today in support of House Bill 2927.

Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is a devastating, lifelong illness resulting in significant challenges for the patients and families that live with it. It requires the support of many different people along the way, with complex coordination needs. The disease mainly affects people of color, who have historically experienced health care inequities. I was excited to read the proposals in this legislation, as recently I have seen the help that a coordinated community effort can provide to patients with complex needs through learning I have done as I study for a Master's in Nursing from OHSU. I know firsthand the issues patients with SCD face, especially as they transition from a pediatric program to adult care. The education aspects of this bill will help both those living with SCD better manage their illness as well as help providers have a better understanding of how to treat patients with SCD. I respectfully request that you consider voting in favor of this bill as it will positively affect the lives of patients I know and care for, and will be a step in a positive direction to decrease health care inequities.

Thank you,  
Koree Leisenring, RN, BSN, CPHON  
Oregon Health and Science University  
Portland, Oregon