

Dear Senate Committee on Health Care,

April 23, 2023

I am submitting testimony in response to the proposed SB 703. I have been a Nursing Assistant 1 instructor with the Beaverton School District, Health Careers Program for the past seven years. I **do not** support SB 703.

D&S Diversified Technologies LLP; Headmaster LLP has been the third-party company that has administered the Nursing Assistant (NA) 1 certifying exam for the entirety of my career as an NA 1 instructor. I have found this company to provide excellent customer service to myself as well as my students. They provide bi-annual sessions for instructors to review knowledge test questions and the patient care skills that are tested in the skills portion of the test. Both the knowledge and skills components of the test are very comprehensive. Students must demonstrate true understanding and competency to pass the exam. D&S Diversified Technologies provides a detailed report to instructors after testing, so instructors can see content areas that students did not pass. They are available to students to go over their results. This helps students understand the content they did not pass.

Students do have the option of having knowledge test questions read orally during the knowledge exam. This can help non-native English-speaking students hear how words are pronounced to alleviate confusion with what a question is asking. D&S Diversified Technologies does have the ability to provide a word for word translation dictionary to students. Currently, OSBN does not allow students to utilize this dictionary.

Headmaster has continued to grow during the past seven years, and is the third-party company providing Nursing Assistant testing services to the following states:

- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming

Nursing Assistants in Oregon need to be able to communicate in English to be able to provide patient care, communicate with patients and staff, and document properly. I believe it is important that students show proficiency by being able to pass an exam in English. I would prefer OSBN be allowed to work with D&S Diversified Technologies to fill any language issues or barriers, rather than limiting the testing provider options Oregon can utilize.

I am curious if anyone contacted any Nursing Assistant instructors in Oregon, or the staff at OSBN to find out more about this issue prior to trying to pass a Bill? If passed, this Bill will majorly impact all Nursing Assistant classes in the State.

Thank you for your consideration,

Michele Jakubauskas

michele_jakubauskas@beaverton.k12.or.us