

Oregon House Health Care Committee 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 227

April 26, 2023

Chair Nosse, members of the committee,

The Northwest Kidney Council is grateful for the opportunity to support SB 227, which allows the Oregon State Board of Nursing to issue a limited license to nurses licensed in another jurisdiction, which would be of great benefit to patients with kidney disease in Oregon.

The Northwest Kidney Council partners with patient advocates, health care professionals, care providers and researchers to advance kidney care in both Washington and Oregon. Together we are committed to ensuring that all patients with kidney disease receive high quality care and that treatment is accessible to all.

The more than 9,000 Oregonians living with end stage renal disease require specialized care from providers with expertise in dialysis and other areas of kidney disease treatment. For many reasons, there is a shortage of nurses in Oregon, which can make it difficult for providers to adequately staff treatment centers. SB 227 would help address this shortage by allowing nurses licensed in other states to provide care in Oregon under a limited license.

This bill would help ensure that patients with kidney disease receive the highest quality of care possible. By expanding the pool of qualified nurses who can provide care in Oregon, SB 227 would help improve the health outcomes of patients with kidney disease.

We urge you to support SB 227 and help ensure that patients with kidney disease in Oregon have access to the specialized care they need. This is a bipartisan and common-sense approach to relieving some of the pressure that health care providers are experiencing.

Sincerely,

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