



Chair Nosse; Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson  
Representatives Bowman, Conrad, Dexter, Diehl, Javadi, Pham, Tran, and Yunker  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

February 13, 2024

RE: House Bill 4071

Central City Concern (CCC) provides a comprehensive continuum of affordable housing options integrated with direct social services including health care, recovery, and employment in Portland, Oregon. CCC serves more than 13,000 individuals annually. Up to 30,000 people across the tri-county region are affected annually by homelessness.

We fully support the proposed -1 amendment to HB 4071. This amendment aims to establish a task force to streamline the licensing process for licensing healthcare professionals and clinicians relocating from other states to Oregon.

Furthermore, we stand in full support of the -2 and -3 amendments, which advocate for Oregon's participation in the Social Work Licensure Compact and the Counseling Compact respectively. These amendments also allow for the temporary licensure of healthcare professionals relocating to Oregon.

Our state's public behavioral health system is currently facing a severe workforce shortage, with an alarming 93% estimated gap in qualified mental health professionals. HB 4071 provides a pathway towards addressing this substantial gap and expanding access to much-needed care.

CCC urges the legislature's support for this package and its accompanying amendments, including preserving language regarding temporary licensure of clinicians relocating to Oregon. Thank you for your service to our state.

Respectfully,

Brooke Goldberg  
Public Policy Director



**CENTRAL CITY  
CONCERN**

HOMES HEALTH JOBS