

Submitter: Gwendolen Shickell
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: HB4130

My name is Gwendolen Sue Shickell, BS RT(R)(T), CMD. I am an employee of Compass Oncology. I respectfully submit my testimony and would like to offer support of the testimony shared by Dr. Rushing and Dr. Schuler.

My late husband was a radiation oncologist in private practice for four of the eight years he practiced medicine before he tragically lost his life at the young age of 42. He chose private practice versus accepting a tenured position at the Mayo Clinic because his desire was to spend his time with his patients, not writing papers or working on administrative issues. My daughter is a first-year medical student at Western University in Lebanon, Oregon. Dr. Rushing shared two very valid concerns relating to my late husband's practice parameters and employment opportunities for my daughter once she completes her studies. I fear your legislation will have far reaching consequences that will directly affect my daughter's future employment opportunities.

I desire to support the testimony that Dr. Rushing and Dr. Shuler shared and add my thoughts on how US Oncology helps to support Compass Oncology. I am senior medical dosimetrist at Compass Oncology. I primarily do treatment planning for the clinic located in Tigard, Oregon, but I do work for all three compass sites. The support I receive from US Oncology helps to ensure that I know that the treatment plans I generate are of the highest quality and safe for patient delivery. US Oncology does not tell me how to plan patients' radiation treatments, but instead provides a plethora of supportive tools that ensure quality and safety. I volunteer my time and serve on 2 physics subcommittees for US Oncology. The work of these committees is supportive in nature and intent, with a focus on patient safety, quality of patient care, and consistency of patient care. I am proud of the work I do for Compass Oncology and the US Oncology Network. I also volunteer my time with American Society of Radiologic Technologist and the Medical Dosimetry Certification Board.

I humbly ask you to please review the testimony Dr. Rushing and Dr. Schuler shared. Please review how this bill will affect Compass Oncology's ability to provide affordable, safe, and clinically relevant cancer treatment.