

Dear Senators,

I am an ophthalmologist practicing in Oregon. I am writing to state my full support for this bill which is of the utmost importance to the well-being of Oregonians. Profit-driven corporate entities including private equity firms have been repeatedly shown to adversely affect the care of patients while increasing costs after assuming control of medical practices. Businesspeople with no medical training should not be in positions of power when Oregonians' lives and well-being are at stake.

Please see this large review of studies for the evidence behind this:

Borsa A, Bejarano G, Ellen M, Bruch JD. Evaluating trends in private equity ownership and impacts on health outcomes, costs, and quality: systematic review. *BMJ*. 2023 Jul 19;382:e075244. doi: 10.1136/bmj-2023-075244. PMID: 37468157; PMCID: PMC10354830.

The second aspect of this bill is eliminating non-compete clauses for health care workers. These anti-competitive clauses lock healthcare workers into one system, skewing the division of power between employer and employee even further asymmetrically. The ability to move jobs without uprooting from your community is essential. Without this option, healthcare workers cannot 'vote with their feet' by leaving organizations that have unsafe or immoral policies and practices. Furthermore, non-compete clauses provide a chilling effect on applicants. The federal government has already identified non-competes as serious threats to employees' fair participation in the labor market. Oregon can position itself as a leader in getting ahead of this trend to support workers.

In reviewing the parties providing testimony for and against this bill, it is clear who this bill will benefit—the healthcare workers and patients of Oregon—and who it will harm—the out of state mega-corporations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Davin Ashraf MD
Resident of Clackamas County