

Submitter: Krysta Schlis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1570

I am a subspecialty pediatrician in Portland and provide care to children from all over Oregon with life-threatening medical conditions. I strongly support SB 1570.

Ensuring that vulnerable Oregonians feel safe accessing necessary medical care for their children regardless of their immigration status is of URGENT importance. My patients have life-threatening illnesses that require intensive ongoing treatment. We are hearing from more and families who are fearful of bringing their children to the ED or outpatient appointments. Parents are overwhelmed and terrified and to add to this a very real potential risk of being targeted by immigration enforcement when seeking medical care for their children is absolutely unacceptable. The currently lack of clear protections in healthcare settings is inhumane and could create life-threatening situations for vulnerable Oregon children.

I urge you vote YES SB 1570 and ensure this bill be prioritized for further consideration during this legislative session.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this testimony.

Krysta Schlis, MD