

Submitter: Smitha Chadaga  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1570

Smitha R Chadaga MD FHM FACP

Friday February 27 2026

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 1570B

Oregon House of Representatives:

I urge you to pass SB 1570B, the Healthcare Without Fear Act. It is imperative that Oregonians, regardless of their background, view Oregon healthcare facilities as safe places to receive care.

I have been in hospital medicine physician for over 20 years. I have never seen such anxiety and hesitation to receive medical care as I have under this current administration's immigration policies and these current circumstances with federal immigration laws enforcement.

This bill:

1. Makes hospitals responsible for having policies that clearly delineate public vs. private space, and puts hospital supervisory staff, not frontline caregivers, in the position of interacting with law enforcement
2. Increases the safeguarding of immigration-sensitive patient information from disclosure to law enforcement
3. Establishes new protections for caregivers against retaliation for the sharing of know-your-rights information

Please pass SB 1570B through the House of Representatives. Immigrant Oregonians and non-immigrant Oregonians — and more than thirty advocacy organizations from spheres of labor, healthcare, immigrant services and beyond — are counting on you to take these steps to make hospitals and federally qualified health centers safer for all.

Thank you,

Smitha

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