
From: Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (OFNHP)
Re: Support for SB 1570 A
Date: February 26, 2026

Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Elmer and Pham, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (OFNHP), we write in strong support of SB 1570 A with the -12A amendment. OFNHP represents more than 7,000 nurses and health professionals across Oregon and Southwest Washington who provide direct patient care in hospitals, clinics, and community health settings. Our members see every day how fear and uncertainty can undermine patient health, workplace safety, and trust in our healthcare system.

Healthcare settings must be places of safety, dignity, and healing. SB 1570 A takes important and measured steps to uphold that principle by prohibiting the disclosure of a patient's immigration status and limiting immigration enforcement activity in non-public healthcare areas. For patients and families, particularly those navigating serious or life-threatening conditions, the sense of safety within a healthcare environment is not abstract. It is foundational to honest communication, continuity of care, and positive health outcomes.

The bill also provides critical clarity for healthcare workers and facilities. Clear, consistent statewide standards protect patients while ensuring that nurses, clinicians, and support staff are not forced to interpret complex legal issues in high-stress clinical situations. By strengthening confidentiality protections and explicitly recognizing immigration status and place of birth as protected information, SB 1570 A aligns with longstanding ethical obligations, trauma-informed care practices, and established patient privacy principles.

Importantly, this legislation is also about workplace safety. Healthcare workers deserve safe environments where they can focus on delivering high-quality care without fear of intimidation, disruption, or the threat of enforcement actions occurring in clinical spaces. The presence, or even the perceived threat, of immigration enforcement in patient care areas creates instability and risk for patients, families, and staff alike.

SB 1570 A reaffirms that healthcare decisions belong to patients and their providers. **It reinforces the principle that healthcare facilities are spaces for healing, not sites of detention or deportation, and that all Oregonians should be able to seek care without fear.**

For these reasons, OFNHP respectfully urges your support for SB 1570 A with the -12A amendments. Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to protecting patient safety, confidentiality, and access to care in Oregon.

Sincerely,
Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals