



To: House Health Care Committee  
Regarding: **Support for House Bill 4083**

February 2, 2022

Dear Chair Prusak and members of the House Health Care Committee

On behalf of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon and the over 1,500 osteopathic physicians and medical students we represent, I am writing to express our support for House Bill 4083. This bill is about increasing access to primary care services which we strongly support.

Fundamental to the patient-centered, whole person approach of osteopathic medicine is a strong foundation in primary care, and osteopathic physicians have a long history of serving in primary care fields. This focus is based on the impact that comprehensive primary care has in preventing illness, early interventions in treatment, and empowering individuals to reach their full health potential.

By requiring insurers to provide reimbursement for at least three primary care visits per year, HB 4083 will help eliminate barriers to health care access. Removing barriers to primary care access is a critical component in shifting the focus of our health care system to preventative measures that will both improve patient outcomes and lower costs.

In addition to ensuring Oregonians have access to at least three primary care visits annually, HB 4083 will require insurers to assign beneficiaries to a primary care provider if the beneficiary has not selected one after 90 days of enrollment. Not only does this ensure Oregonians will have an assigned primary care provider, but it underscores the importance of primary care for all beneficiaries. This may serve as an important encouragement for patients to access primary care services and foster the physician-patient relationship empowering patients to reach their full health potential.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and we urge your support for HB 4083.

Sincerely,

David Walls  
Executive Director  
Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon

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