



To: Members of the Senate Committee on Rules  
From: Oregon Academy of Family Physicians  
Submitted by Brian Frank, external affairs committee of OAFP  
Date: April 21, 2023  
Re. Supportive on HB 1089

The Oregon Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP) has over 1,600 members, making it the largest medical specialty society in Oregon. Our mission is to support family physicians in their pursuit of optimal health for the people of Oregon. That includes helping to evaluate proposed health policy, and that is why we support SB 1089. Our members work in all kinds of health care settings from urgent care to hospice care, to medical home clinics. In these settings, they care for patients every day for whom insurance coverage isn't enough. Though we have worked to ensure expanded no-cost care, many Oregonians have insurance coverage with high deductibles and co-pays. The fear of medical bills they can't afford keeps too many people away from the doctor until their health conditions are acute. We have made great progress in Oregon, but these problems persist.

The OAFP and our members have been at the table, helping to shape and support nearly all the transformation efforts Oregon has undertaken in the past decade and a half. Clinicians remain overwhelmed by the burden of administering our complex system. What we know is that a half-transformed system is not working.

Many stakeholders in health care have collaborated to bring us to this point. We have reduced the number of uninsured Oregonians and expanded how we think about addressing social drivers of health, and we should be proud of that. We believe that SB 1089 is the logical next step. There is plenty of money in the system, but we also know and see every day that too much of it is going to the wrong place: to administration, rather than to patient care. The report released by the Task Force on developing a framework for a single-payer system is encouraging, but there are still a lot of unknowns. SB 1089 will allow us to take the time needed to develop a comprehensive plan for implementation while allowing flexibility in the private sector. We are eager to continue helping to ensure that what comes next includes an appropriate focus on primary care, on caring for the whole patient.

Oregon Academy of Family Physicians  
3439 NE Sandy #264  
Portland, Oregon 97232  
Phone: (503) 528-0961