



National Association  
of EMS Physicians



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ASSOCIATION

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Voice of Oregon Nurses Since 1904



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## EMS Modernization // HB 4081 (2024)

Establishes the State Emergency Medical Services Program, its authorities and responsibilities, as well as the re-organization of Oregon's existing EMS committees into a structured advisory board network for the Program.

**HB 4081** would coordinate emergency health care using a regionalized approach and allow local regions to coordinate and deliver the right patients to the right care in the right time. It will coordinate specialty care centers and upgrade the ability of the EMS system to respond to disasters such as the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires, storms, earthquakes, and other emergencies.

### Key Objectives

- **Establishes the State EMS Program.** This state program will be responsible for driving more consistent quality in EMS service and greater efficiency in EMS operations.
- **Creates the Advisory Board Network.** Re-organizes the existing state-level committees into a structured advisory board network that covers EMS, time-sensitive emergencies, pediatric emergency care, and behavioral health emergency care.
- **Establishes Emergency Medical Service Regions** using the existing structure of the Area Trauma Regions and aligning with regional health care structures such as the Regional Resource Hospital Network. These regions will use state standards of care to develop regional plans with local control.
- **Integrated Data Systems.** Authority for the Program to compile relevant emergency medicine data in an internal system for the purpose of distributing reports and analysis of KPI measurement, quality improvement/assurance, and monitoring of data trends, while respecting HIPAA compliance and privacy of proprietary information.
- **Incentive Based Regulatory Framework.** Provides incentives such as program participation or access to grant funding for regions and organizations in good standing.

### Phased Rollout

This bill represents phase one and establishes the framework to improve the EMS system, rolling out over the next 5-10 years. For phase two, the workgroup will develop recommendations for the 2025 session to address workforce needs, long-term funding mechanisms to support EMS systems in the state and establish an EMS mobilization policy to make it more efficient to activate and redirect EMS resources during an emergency.

### Legislative Sponsors

Rep. Dacia Grayber, Lisa Reynolds, Maxine Dexter, Hai Pham; Sen. Elizabeth Steiner, Deb Patterson

## Background

In 1987, Oregon created the nation's first statewide and regionalized trauma system. The system has saved countless lives and served as a model that has been copied throughout the nation. Despite this overwhelming success, Oregon lags behind other state and currently does not have a comprehensive approach to other emergencies like heart attack and stroke.

Rep. Dacia Grayber, a firefighter and paramedic, is leading a workgroup with over 40 organizations and 70+ individuals to develop a plan to improve Oregon's system of care to address the emergency health care needs of the state. Improved response is especially critical for rural and minority populations with disproportionate access to emergency care.

## Workgroup Participants

- OHA EMS Division
- OHA Public Health Division
- OHA Human Services
- ODOT
- ODEM
- OSFM
- ODHS
- DPSST
- Association of Oregon Counties
- Oregon Medical Board
- Office of Rural Health
- National Association of EMS Physicians
- Hospitals Association of Oregon
- Oregon Medical Association
- Oregon Health Care Association
- American Heart Association
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest Survival Network
- Fire Chiefs Association
- Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue
- Oregon State Ambulance Association
- Special Districts Association
- Oregon State FF Council
- State EMS – Children's Committee
- EMS Children's Program
- State Trauma Advisory Board
- State Stroke Committee
- Oregon State Police
- OHSU/OIT – EMS Equity Academic
- OHSU – Behavioral Health
- Oregon Medical Coordination Center
- Teamsters Union
- AFSCME Union
- Adventist Health
- Mercy Flights
- Global Medical Response
- Metro West
- Multnomah County
- Washington County
- Marion County
- Oregon Emergency Managers Association
- Corvallis Fire & EMS
- Counties – Public Safety Division
- Counties – Local Health Officials
- Providence
- Good Samaritan Hospital
- Salem Health
- Oregon Nurses Association
- American College of Emergency Physicians – Oregon Chapter

## Questions? Please Contact

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