

SB 28 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/08/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 3-2-0-0

Yeas: 3 - Campos, Patterson, Reynolds

Nays: 2 - Hayden, Linthicum

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires health insurers to reimburse independent primary care providers at the same rate as hospital-based providers for identical services.

Detailed Summary:

Reimbursement Rate Requirements

- Establishes the Primary Care Fairness Rate as a benchmark for primary care services, based on reimbursement rates paid to hospital-based providers.
- Sets the benchmark at the highest primary care reimbursement rate in the relevant geographic market.
- Directs the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to adopt rules identifying applicable primary care service codes.

Exemptions and Opt-Out

- Exempts policies or certificates of health insurance issued by the Public Employees' Benefit Board (PEBB) or the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB).
- Allows independent primary care providers to opt out of being reimbursed under the Primary Care Fairness Rate.

Reporting and Effective Dates

- Requires annual reporting of applicable codes and benchmark rates.
- Directs DCBS to issue requirements no later than January 1, 2026.
- Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Financial viability of small and independent medical practices.
- Access to primary care.
- Impacts of the measure.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Primary care physicians (PCPs) are physicians who practice general health care. They are typically the first person with whom a patient discusses their health issues. PCPs provide preventative care, treatment of common illnesses, screening for and early detection of illnesses or conditions, management of chronic conditions, and referrals to medical specialists. PCPs may include physicians who practice family medicine, general internal

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medicine, pediatrics, or other similar disciplines. Between 2014 and 2019, the total number of PCPs in Oregon fell 13.1 percent ([The State of Primary Care](#), 2024). Much of Oregon is designated as a primary care health professional shortage area ([HPSA](#)) or a as a medically underserved area ([MUA](#)) as defined by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Senate Bill 28 A requires health insurers to reimburse independent primary care providers at the same rate as hospital-based providers for identical services.