

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 716

By COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

April 15

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after the second semicolon insert “and amending ORS
2 743A.036.” and delete the rest of the line and line 3.

3 Delete lines 5 through 26 and delete pages 2 through 8 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of the Insurance**
5 **Code.**

6 **“SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

7 **“(a) ‘Eligible urgent care center’ means an urgent care center located in a rural area**
8 **that provides services regardless of the form of reimbursement and has onsite radiology and**
9 **laboratory services.**

10 **“(b) ‘Urgent care center’ means a facility or portion of a facility that is open to the public**
11 **and provides medical care to individuals on a walk-in and episodic basis for illnesses or in-**
12 **juries that are acute but not life-threatening or do not require emergency medical services.**

13 **“(2) A policy or certificate of health insurance issued in this state that reimburses the**
14 **cost of medical care provided by an urgent care center must reimburse the cost of medical**
15 **services provided by an eligible urgent care center in an amount that is 20 percent higher**
16 **than the reimbursement paid for the same services when provided by an urgent care center**
17 **that is not an eligible urgent care center.**

18 **“(3) This section is exempt from ORS 743A.001.**

19 **“(4) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall adopt rules establishing**
20 **the requirements for qualification as an eligible urgent care center.**

21 **“SECTION 3. ORS 743A.036, as amended by section 154, chapter 73, Oregon Laws 2024, is**
22 **amended to read:**

23 **“743A.036. (1) Whenever any policy of health insurance provides for reimbursement for a pri-**
24 **mary care or mental health service provided by a licensed physician, the insured under the policy**
25 **is entitled to reimbursement for such service if provided by a licensed physician associate or a li-**
26 **icensed nurse practitioner if the service is within the lawful scope of practice of the physician as-**
27 **sociate or nurse practitioner.**

28 **“(2)(a) Except as provided in section 2 of this 2025 Act, the reimbursement of a service de-**
29 **scribed in subsection (1) of this section that is provided by a licensed physician associate or a li-**
30 **icensed nurse practitioner who is in an independent practice shall be in the same amount as the**
31 **reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area**
32 **served.**

33 **“(b) As used in this subsection, ‘independent practice’ means the licensed physician associate**
34 **or the licensed nurse practitioner bills insurers for services provided by the physician associate or**
35 **nurse practitioner using the:**

1 “(A) Diagnosis and procedure codes applicable to the services;

2 “(B) Physician associate’s or nurse practitioner’s own name; and

3 “(C) National provider identifier for:

4 “(i) The physician associate or nurse practitioner; and

5 “(ii) If required by the insurer, the facility in which the physician associate or nurse practitioner
6 provides the services.

7 “(3) This section does not apply to group practice health maintenance organizations that are
8 federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Health Maintenance Organization Act or other
9 insurers that employ physicians, licensed physician associates or licensed nurse practitioners to
10 provide primary care or mental health services and do not compensate such practitioners on a fee-
11 for-service basis.

12 “(4) An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to
13 comply with this section.

14 “**SECTION 4.** ORS 743A.036, as amended by section 154, chapter 73, Oregon Laws 2024, and
15 section 3 of this 2025 Act, is amended to read:

16 “743A.036. (1) Whenever any policy of health insurance provides for reimbursement for a pri-
17 mary care or mental health service provided by a licensed physician, the insured under the policy
18 is entitled to reimbursement for such service if provided by a licensed physician associate or a li-
19 censed nurse practitioner if the service is within the lawful scope of practice of the physician as-
20 sociate or nurse practitioner.

21 “(2)(a) [*Except as provided in section 2 of this 2025 Act,*] The reimbursement of a service de-
22 scribed in subsection (1) of this section that is provided by a licensed physician associate or a li-
23 censed nurse practitioner who is in an independent practice shall be in the same amount as the
24 reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area
25 served.

26 “(b) As used in this subsection, ‘independent practice’ means the licensed physician associate
27 or the licensed nurse practitioner bills insurers for services provided by the physician associate or
28 nurse practitioner using the:

29 “(A) Diagnosis and procedure codes applicable to the services;

30 “(B) Physician associate’s or nurse practitioner’s own name; and

31 “(C) National provider identifier for:

32 “(i) The physician associate or nurse practitioner; and

33 “(ii) If required by the insurer, the facility in which the physician associate or nurse practitioner
34 provides the services.

35 “(3) This section does not apply to group practice health maintenance organizations that are
36 federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Health Maintenance Organization Act or other
37 insurers that employ physicians, licensed physician associates or licensed nurse practitioners to
38 provide primary care or mental health services and do not compensate such practitioners on a fee-
39 for-service basis.

40 “(4) An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to
41 comply with this section.

42 “**SECTION 5.** Section 6 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 414.

43 “**SECTION 6.** (1) As used in this section:

44 “(a) ‘Eligible urgent care center’ has the meaning given that term in section 2 of this
45 2025 Act, as further defined by rule by the Department of Consumer and Business Services.

1 “(b) ‘Urgent care center’ has the meaning given that term in section 2 of this 2025 Act.

2 “(2) The Oregon Health Authority and a coordinated care organization shall reimburse
3 the cost of services provided by an eligible urgent care center in an amount that is 20 per-
4 cent higher than the reimbursement paid for the same services when provided by an urgent
5 care center that is not an eligible urgent care center.

6 “SECTION 7. (1) In addition the requirements in ORS 243.144, benefit plans offered by the
7 Public Employees’ Benefit Board that reimburse the cost of medical and other health ser-
8 vices and supplies must comply with the requirements for health benefit plan coverage de-
9 scribed in section 2 of this 2025 Act.

10 “(2) In addition to the requirements in ORS 243.877, benefit plans offered by the Oregon
11 Educators Benefit Board that reimburse the cost of medical and other health services and
12 supplies must comply with the requirements for health benefit plan coverage described in
13 section 2 of this 2025 Act.

14 “(3) In addition to the requirements in ORS 750.055, a health care service contractor shall
15 comply with the requirements of section 2 of this 2025 Act to the extent it is not inconsistent
16 with the express provisions of ORS 750.005 to 750.095.

17 “(4) In addition to the requirements in ORS 750.333, the requirements of section 2 of this
18 2025 Act apply to trusts carrying out a multiple employer welfare arrangement.

19 “SECTION 8. The Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Consumer and Busi-
20 ness Services shall submit a report on the implementation of sections 2 and 6 of this 2025
21 Act in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 no later than January 1, 2031. The report shall
22 include but is not limited to:

23 “(1) An analysis of the cost and benefit.

24 “(2) A summary of patient demographics that includes a reason for the patient visit to
25 the eligible urgent care center.

26 “(3) An analysis of reimbursement type.

27 “SECTION 9. (1) Sections 2, 6 and 7 of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 743A.036
28 by section 3 of this 2025 Act become operative on January 1, 2027.

29 “(2) The amendments to ORS 743A.036 by section 4 of this 2025 Act become operative on
30 January 1, 2033.

31 “SECTION 10. (1) Section 2 of this 2025 Act applies to health benefit plans issued, re-
32 newed or extended on or after January 1, 2027.

33 “(2) Section 6 of this 2025 Act applies to medical assistance provided on or after January
34 1, 2027, and to contracts with coordinated care organizations for periods beginning on or af-
35 ter January 1, 2027.

36 “(3) Section 7 of this 2025 Act applies to benefit plans, health care services contracts and
37 multiple employer welfare arrangements, issued, renewed or extended on or after January
38 1, 2027.

39 “SECTION 11. (1) Sections 2, 6 and 7 of this 2025 Act are repealed on January 2, 2033.

40 “(2) Section 8 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2031.”.
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