

SB 716-4
(LC 1357)
4/2/25 (EKJ/ps)

Requested by Senator GORSEK

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 716**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after the second semicolon insert
2 “and amending ORS 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**
5 **of the Insurance Code.**

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

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

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

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

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

21 **“(4) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall adopt**

1 **rules establishing the requirements for qualification as an eligible ur-**
2 **gent care center.**

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

5 “743A.036. (1) Whenever any policy of health insurance provides for re-
6 imbursement for a primary care or mental health service provided by a li-
7 censed physician, the insured under the policy is entitled to reimbursement
8 for such service if provided by a licensed physician associate or a licensed
9 nurse practitioner if the service is within the lawful scope of practice of the
10 physician associate or nurse practitioner.

11 “(2)(a) **Except as provided in section 2 of this 2025 Act,** the re-
12 imbursement of a service described in subsection (1) of this section that is
13 provided by a licensed physician associate or a licensed nurse practitioner
14 who is in an independent practice shall be in the same amount as the re-
15 imbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the
16 service in the area served.

17 “(b) As used in this subsection, ‘independent practice’ means the licensed
18 physician associate or the licensed nurse practitioner bills insurers for ser-
19 vices provided by the physician associate or nurse practitioner using the:

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

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

22 “(C) National provider identifier for:

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

24 “(ii) If required by the insurer, the facility in which the physician asso-
25 ciate or nurse practitioner provides the services.

26 “(3) This section does not apply to group practice health maintenance
27 organizations that are federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Health
28 Maintenance Organization Act or other insurers that employ physicians, li-
29 censed physician associates or licensed nurse practitioners to provide pri-
30 mary care or mental health services and do not compensate such

1 practitioners on a fee-for-service basis.

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

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

6 “743A.036. (1) Whenever any policy of health insurance provides for re-
7 imbursement for a primary care or mental health service provided by a li-
8 censed physician, the insured under the policy is entitled to reimbursement
9 for such service if provided by a licensed physician associate or a licensed
10 nurse practitioner if the service is within the lawful scope of practice of the
11 physician associate or nurse practitioner.

12 “(2)(a) [*Except as provided in section 2 of this 2025 Act,*] The reimburse-
13 ment of a service described in subsection (1) of this section that is provided
14 by a licensed physician associate or a licensed nurse practitioner who is in
15 an independent practice shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement
16 paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the
17 area served.

18 “(b) As used in this subsection, ‘independent practice’ means the licensed
19 physician associate or the licensed nurse practitioner bills insurers for ser-
20 vices provided by the physician associate or nurse practitioner using the:

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

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

23 “(C) National provider identifier for:

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

25 “(ii) If required by the insurer, the facility in which the physician asso-
26 ciate or nurse practitioner provides the services.

27 “(3) This section does not apply to group practice health maintenance
28 organizations that are federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Health
29 Maintenance Organization Act or other insurers that employ physicians, li-
30 censed physician associates or licensed nurse practitioners to provide pri-

1 mary care or mental health services and do not compensate such
2 practitioners on a fee-for-service basis.

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

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

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

8 **“(a) ‘Eligible urgent care center’ has the meaning given that term
9 in section 2 of this 2025 Act, as further defined by rule by the Depart-
10 ment of Consumer and Business Services.**

11 **“(b) ‘Urgent care center’ has the meaning given that term in sec-
12 tion 2 of this 2025 Act.**

13 **“(2) The Oregon Health Authority and a coordinated care organ-
14 ization shall reimburse the cost of services provided by an eligible ur-
15 gent care center in an amount that is 20 percent higher than the
16 reimbursement paid for the same services when provided by an urgent
17 care center that is not an eligible urgent care center.**

18 **“SECTION 7. (1) In addition the requirements in ORS 243.144, ben-
19 efit plans offered by the Public Employees’ Benefit Board that reim-
20 burse the cost of medical and other health services and supplies must
21 comply with the requirements for health benefit plan coverage de-
22 scribed in section 2 of this 2025 Act.**

23 **“(2) In addition to the requirements in ORS 243.877, benefit plans
24 offered by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board that reimburse the cost
25 of medical and other health services and supplies must comply with
26 the requirements for health benefit plan coverage described in section
27 2 of this 2025 Act.**

28 **“(3) In addition to the requirements in ORS 750.055, a health care
29 service contractor shall comply with the requirements of section 2 of
30 this 2025 Act to the extent it is not inconsistent with the express pro-**

visions of ORS 750.005 to 750.095.

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

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

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

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

“(3) An analysis of reimbursement type.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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