



MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Rob Nosse, Chair, House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee
Representative Cyrus Javadi, Vice-Chair, House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee
Representative Travis Nelson, Vice-Chair, House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee
Members of the House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee

From: Courtni Dresser, Vice President of Government Relations

Date: January 28, 2025

Re: HB 3221 – Urgent Care Bill

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) is the state's largest and longest-standing advocacy organization representing physicians, physician associates (PAs), medical students, and PA students.

The OMA joined Representative Nathanson's discussions on urgent care facilities later in the process and greatly appreciates her thoughtful approach and continued engagement on this important issue.

Many OMA members work in urgent care settings, including both freestanding and hospital-owned facilities. Overall, there is support for the creation of a registry to better understand the role and operations of urgent care facilities. Such a registry could provide valuable information for patients, caregivers, and clinicians. However, as discussions continue, we urge careful consideration of the administrative burden, scope and costs associated with the registration process.

Our members have expressed concerns about the proposed list of required items that all urgent care locations must have available. For example, mandating on-site x-ray equipment and technicians could inadvertently reduce access to care, particularly in smaller or more rural settings.

The OMA remains committed to constructive dialogue and has recommended exploring a tiered system for urgent care facilities, similar to the levels used by Emergency Departments, to help direct patients to the most appropriate level of care.

As we continue to gather input and participate in discussions with Representative Nathanson, we will ensure that any additional feedback and suggestions are shared to help inform the process.

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) is the state's largest professional organization engaging in advocacy, policy, community-building, and networking opportunities for Oregon's physicians, physician assistants, medical students, and physician assistant students. The OMA's members speak with one voice as they advocate for policies that improve access to quality patient care, reduce administrative burdens on medical professionals, and improve the health of all Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org