



January 30, 2025

To the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare:

I am writing this testimony in support of HB 3221. Patient-centered primary care is the foundation of a high-quality health system. I am grateful to practice in a state like Oregon; a national leader in delivering the sort of innovative, patient-centered primary care that all people deserve. Sadly, primary care office closures brought about by the pandemic and corporate consolidation of the healthcare system means there are not enough primary care providers for all Oregonians. Currently, there is a three month wait for my patients to see me. My colleagues across the state report similar wait times. This is for *established* patients. The wait time for a new primary care provider can take as long as six months. People simply do not have the luxury of time to have their immediate medical needs addressed. Instead, they are turning to urgent care clinics for primary care needs. HB 3221 would provide insight into how and where Oregonians are receiving their primary care. This, in turn, would provide valuable information about areas across the state that require more investment in primary care resources thus ensuring all Oregonians have equal access to patient-centered primary care.

Sincerely



Brian Frank  
Chair, Commission on External Affairs  
Oregon Academy of Family Physicians