



February 11, 2025

Oregon State Legislature
House Committee on Behavioral Health & Health Care
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Submitted electronically via OLIS

RE: HB 3242, Relating to in-network credentialing

Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee:

Samaritan Health Services is a nonprofit regional health system offering care to Oregonians in Benton, Lincoln, Linn and portions of Marion and Polk counties. Driven by its mission of building healthier communities together, it brings together community hospitals, physician clinics and health insurance plans to serve more than 275,000 residents of the mid-Willamette Valley and central Oregon Coast.

SHS supports HB 3242 to facilitate patient access to care. The bill ensures that a provider who has completed their credentialing application and is joining a provider group that is already in-network, shall be reimbursed at the same rate and the same payment scheduled as in-network providers during their credentialing period. This would allow for providers coming into the network to see patients sooner and to be assured that they will be compensated for those services at the same rate as other providers in the network.

Protections for the insurers including if the provider was previously rejected or terminated will remain in place.

We appreciate Representatives Diehl and Javadi for bringing this bill forward and we respectively urge the committee to support HB 3242.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andi Easton".

Andi Easton
Government Relations Director
Samaritan Health Services