



To: Chair Nosse
Vice Chairs Javadi, Nelson
And Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare

Fr: Sabrina Riggs
Oregon State Ambulance Association
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RE: Neutral on HB 2222

The Oregon State Ambulance Association (OSAA) is the statewide membership organization of Emergency Medical Services Providers. Our members are public, private, and nonprofit EMS providers serving all corners of Oregon. Many of our OSAA members also provide Mobile Integrated Health Services.

OSAA is currently neutral on HB 2222. OSAA understands and appreciates the intent behind HB 2222, but our members have questions about implementation and some of the language in the current draft. We understand that proponents are working on an amendment to address many of these questions, and we look forward to reviewing the amendment when it is available.

We are hopeful that the forthcoming amendment will address issues including concerns with the requirement for the Oregon Health Authority to create a registry for any/license types, which providers must be listed in in order to bill Medicaid for MIH services. OSAA is concerned that this and the licensure endorsement requirement in section 1(2) may present a burden both to our members who are already licensed and are currently providing MIH services, and to the Oregon Health Authority who will be tasked with building and maintaining this registry. And, it should be clarified that the entity, not the individual healthcare provider, will be billing Medicaid.

We understand that many of these concerns, and more, are being discussed between bill proponents and other stakeholders including the Oregon Health Authority, and are likely to be addressed in a forthcoming amendment. Many of OSAA's members view Mobile Integrated Healthcare as the future of pre-hospital care, and we want to be sure that the details of HB 2222 are sorted out so that there are not unintended consequences.

Thank you for your consideration.

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