

March 20, 2025

Oregon State Legislature
House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
Submitted electronically via OLIS

Re: HB 3234

Chair Sosa and Members of the Committee:

The Hospital Association of Oregon is a mission-driven nonprofit association representing Oregon's 61 community hospitals.

The Hospital Association of Oregon cannot support HB 3234 in its current form, and we cannot support the -2 or -4 amendments. However, we remain committed to working with bill sponsors and stakeholders to achieve our shared goals. We believe more time is needed to refine the legislation to ensure it meets its intended objectives without causing unintended harm to Oregon's health care system.

As drafted, HB 3234 and the -2 and -4 amendments oversimplify the complexities of the health care system. Hospitals and other health care providers are working hard to protect access to care and prevent the closure of services, and this law would disrupt those efforts. Oregon's health care system is at a breaking point, strained by mounting costs and a morass of regulations. Solutions should be tailored to the problems Oregon's health care system faces.

HB 3234 starts an important conversation. The hospital association urges you to consider the widespread consequences that HB 3234 and the -2 and -4 amendments would have on the health care system and local communities throughout Oregon and allow more time for interested stakeholders to develop an appropriate and measured solution.



Sincerely,



Troy Duker
Director of Government Affairs
Hospital Association of Oregon

About the Hospital Association of Oregon

Founded in 1934, the Hospital Association of Oregon Association (HAO) is a mission-driven, nonprofit trade association representing Oregon's 61 hospitals. Together, hospitals are the sixth largest private employer statewide, employing more than 70,000 employees. Committed to fostering a stronger, safer, more equitable Oregon where all people have access to the high-quality care they need, the hospital association supports Oregon's hospitals so they can support their communities; educates government officials and the public on the state's health landscape and works collaboratively with policymakers, community based organizations and the health care community to build consensus on and advance health care policy benefiting the state's four million residents.



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