

Chair and committee members

Thank you for inviting us here today.

I want to share with you why my experience and why I think it's important to support, encourage, and provide incentives to keep and to grow robust full service urgent cares in all areas of our state. Full Service urgent care is vital to our public health **for access to all** Oregonians

- Full service urgent care is available seven days a week/ 365 days a year.

We are available when PCP's are not available or don't have appointments to see their patients or people don't have a PCP at all.

- This type of care is critical for when patients need care, and when ER level care is not needed, appropriate, cost-effective or time efficient, as many ERs have waits up to 8 hours just to be seen.

A true urgent care needs to be equipped to give medical care that, I like to call "ER lite"
they need to

- be able to clean and stitch up significant wounds,

- they need to be able to take, and interpret x-rays to evaluate for broken bones or sprains, and treat those broken bones on site with splinting or casting.
- need to be able to diagnose pneumonia with an x-ray and treat with injection antibiotics if needed.
- need to be able to treat someone with IV fluids that's dehydrated from vomiting from the stomach flu.
- Need to be able to evaluate patients with eye complaints from injuries like weed whacking with a special device and be able to remove that twig particle or grass from the eye.
- UC care needs to be able to have the ability and tools to open and drain skin abscesses-
- as well as to dx, test and treat people **while they're waiting** for
 - flu, Covid, strep, RSV, and test and treat for urinary tract infections, prostate infections, kidney infections,
 - be able to react to someone with an allergic reaction both mild and severe such as anaphylaxis

We need more urgent care that are equipped to provide full service care when ER care is not needed, thus decreasing that burden and wait time in the ER.

Urgent care is the middle ground between the amazing care the PCP's can, and do give on a daily basis and the need for an emergency room which provide life-saving care for the severely ill or injured.

This bill supports public transparency, and helping Oregonians know the type of care they will receive when they go to the urgent care,

Similar to knowing the level of care that is available at an emergency room

This bill supports Care for **all individuals** Including those with Medicare and Medicaid

This bill supports the increased level of care, equipment, staffing, and hours that are needed to provide our public access to care that is cost effective and efficient.

Thank you

I am happy to answer questions at any time.