



MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Courtney Neron, Chair, House Committee on Education
Representative April Dobson, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Education
Representative Emily McIntire, Vice-Chair, house Committee on Education
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Courtni Dresser, Vice President of Government Affairs

Date: March 24, 2025

Re: OMA Comments on HB 2529

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) represents and advocates for more than 7,000 physicians, physician associates, medical and PA students across Oregon. Our mission is to support our members in their efforts to practice medicine effectively, improve the health of Oregonians, and provide the highest quality patient care.

OMA is in strong support for House Bill 2529, which will help ensure that Oregon schools are prepared to respond effectively to sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) emergencies. As clinicians, OMA members recognize the urgent need for comprehensive Cardiac Emergency Response Plans (CERPs) in schools to increase survival rates, protect student-athletes, and enhance overall campus safety.

Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading non-traumatic cause of death among young athletes, and immediate intervention is critical. For every minute without CPR, survival rates decrease by 10%. Studies show that well-implemented CERPs can more than double survival rates by ensuring that trained personnel quickly initiate CPR, call 911, and use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) when needed.

The Oregon Medical Association firmly believes that schools must be equipped to respond to cardiac emergencies, just as they prepare for fires, earthquakes, and other emergencies. Implementing CERPs will save lives and ensure a safer learning environment for all.

We urge your support for HB 2529 to protect Oregon’s students and school communities. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to public health.

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) is the state's largest professional organization engaging in advocacy, policy, and community-building for Oregon's physicians, physician associates, medical students, and physician associate students. The OMA's members speak with one voice as they advocate for policies that improve access to quality patient care, reduce administrative burdens on medical professionals, and improve the health of all Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.