

May 28, 2025

Senate Committee on Rules  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**Subject:** Testimony in Opposition to SB 1060A

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to Oregon Senate Bill 1060A. My name is David Cauble, and I serve as the President and CEO for Sky Lakes Medical Center, a rural healthcare provider serving Klamath County and surrounding areas.

Sky Lakes Medical Center has consistently demonstrated excellence in patient care, as evidenced by our numerous awards and recognitions. We recently received the Performance Leadership award from The Chartis Center of Rural Health and National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, reflecting top performance among rural hospitals nationwide. Our ICU/Critical Care Unit earned a silver-level Beacon Award of Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses in 2023. Additionally, we have been recognized for our stroke care, maternity care, and overall hospital safety.

Sky Lakes may soon be the last independent, non-critical access hospital in the State of Oregon. Like 70% of our health system peers across the state, over the past 5 years Sky Lakes has operated financially either in the red or slightly above break even while continuing to serve the complex medical needs of our community without any disruption to services. Over 76% of the patients we serve are currently on Medicaid or Medicare where rates for services are established at the state and federal levels. Any additional expense, not directly related to the care of our patients, creates a new burden on resources and further jeopardizes our ability to remain financially stable and independent.

Sky Lakes Medical Center strongly opposes SB 1060A, which would create new burdensome administrative requirements on Sky Lakes diverting precious resources from our focus on patient care, forcing us to spend more on duplicative administrative tasks. Sky Lakes is already subject to federal requirements related to price transparency and this bill would increase the administrative burden beyond what is currently required. In September 2023 the Office of Inspector General completed a Hospital Price Transparency audit, finding Sky Lakes in full compliance with federal requirements. Adding additional state level requirements will only increase administrative time and resources for something that has already been found to be in compliance with federal regulations.

SB1060A is unnecessary and provides no new benefit to the patients we serve and will only serve to increase administrative costs. Additionally, the federal price transparency guidelines are being updated and will likely result in new reporting requirements. The introduction of state legislation at this time is unnecessary and may result in the need for additional administrative effort to respond to different reporting requirements both at the state and federal level. The current healthcare

environment is already strained by numerous regulatory requirements and administrative demands. This legislation will only further push health systems across our state closer to the breaking point. We urge you to oppose SB 1060A and help prevent an increase in administrative costs that will bring harm to Sky Lakes and further erode our ability to care for the communities we are privileged to serve.

Respectfully,

David Cauble  
President and CEO  
Sky Lakes Medical Center