



**EMS SECTION – OREGON FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**  
**727 CENTER STREET N.E. SUITE 300**  
**SALEM, OR 97301**

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Date: March 13, 2013

To: Honorable Mitch Greenlick, Chair - House Committee on Healthcare  
& Honorable Members of the Committee

From: Mark Stevens, President, EMS Section, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association

Re: Testimony in Support of HB2969

The EMS Section of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association represents both transport and non-transport fire service agencies and we are writing to you in support of HB 2969. For the vast majority of fire departments, ambulance transport services are not directly supported by property tax revenues, but are recouped in the form of fees for service - much in the same way as private providers.

While the majority of departments routinely obtain written authorization for direct payment from payers, payments can be made directly to patients. In these situations, additional staff time, billings, and follow-up can be required in order to receive payment for services which increases organizational costs. HB 2969 simply stipulates a best practice involving payments made on behalf of patients transported by ambulance. We request your support in passing this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Stevens, President  
On behalf of the Board of Directors  
EMS Section, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association