



Oregon College of Emergency Physicians

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OCEP's Position on SB 227, Traumatic Brain Injury

Senate Health Care Committee

February 4, 2015

Chair Monnes Anderson and members of the committee, my name is Katy King and I'm submitting this statement for the record on behalf of OCEP, the Oregon Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. OCEP is a medical society that has represented physicians specializing in emergency medicine since 1971 and its members share a commitment to improve emergency healthcare for all Oregonians.

OCEP supports Senate Bill 227. This bill establishes a registry of information related to traumatic brain injuries, using existing information in the Oregon Trauma Registry. The purpose of the registry will be to use the data to design system improvement and prevent traumatic brain injuries.

The American College of Emergency Physicians estimates there are more than 1 million emergency department (ED) visits per year for traumatic brain injury in the United States. The majority of these injuries are the result of falls and motor vehicle crashes. A traumatic brain injury registry will add to our collective understanding of these injuries in Oregon, improve clinical decision-making and assist in developing paths to prevention.

In summary, SB 227 will help improve care for people with traumatic brain injuries and OCEP encourages the committee to support the bill.