

May 8, 2017

TO: The Honorable Mitch Greenlick, Chair
House Committee on Health Care

FROM: Dana Selover, MD, MPH
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SUBJECT: SB 52A – Mandatory EMS Electronic Patient Care Reporting

Chair Greenlick and members of the committee; I am Dr. Dana Selover, State Director of the EMS and Trauma Systems and Manager of the Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement Section for the Center for Health Protection, Public Health Division, Oregon Health Authority (OHA). I am here today to support SB 52A which mandates ambulance service agencies to report patient care electronically to a statewide database.

The Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement (HCRQI) section provides oversight of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Systems program which is responsible for developing state and regional standards of care; developing a statewide educational curriculum to teach standards of care; implementing quality improvement programs; creating a statewide data system for prehospital care; and providing ancillary services to enhance Oregon's EMS system.

In order to successfully fulfill these objectives, accurate, quality data must be collected and analyzed. The Authority has been working diligently on this issue since 2012 and is a concept that stakeholders have reached general agreement. While Oregon does not currently mandate emergency service providers to report patient encounters, we have updated our voluntary EMS data system. During

2016 alone, over 334,000 EMS electronic patient care records (ePCR's) were *voluntarily* reported from approximately 66% of the 132 licensed ambulance transport providers. Passage of SB 52A will build upon this foundation and formalize reporting for all licensed ambulance agencies and will enable health information exchange between the EMS data to other parts of the health care delivery system such as the Oregon Trauma Registry

The Authority has continued discussions with stakeholders and is committed to working with stakeholders and software vendors to ensure systems are in place to comply with the reporting requirements. Based on stakeholder feedback, the bill was amended to:

- Eliminate the reference that requires all EMS providers to report data;
- Delay mandatory reporting until January 2019
- Allow the Authority to temporarily waive electronic reporting for agencies that are having difficulty obtaining the necessary reporting software; and
- Require rules to address clinical and operational quality improvement reports for our licensed ambulance agencies.

The Oregon Health Authority urges your support of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I'd be happy to answer any questions.