



Oregon Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians (O.C.E.P)

**Statement for the Record
Senate Health Care Committee**

February 13, 2019

SB 544 and SB 452 Adrenal Insufficiency Medication and Protocols

Chair Monnes Anderson and members of the committee, please accept this statement for the record on behalf of OR-ACEP, the Oregon Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. OR-ACEP 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.

SB 544 requires ambulances to carry medication for adrenal insufficiency and SB 452 requires the Oregon Health Authority to develop protocols to use the medication. Adrenal insufficiency is a disorder that occurs when your body produces insufficient levels of certain hormones produced by your adrenal glands. It can be life-threatening. It's also relatively rare. Oregon's estimated at-risk population is potentially seven patient crises per year.

OR-ACEP has identified several issues with these two bills;

Adrenal insufficiency is extremely rare and requiring ambulance agencies to carry specific medications and have specific protocols for rare disease is not in keeping with an all hazards approach to emergency medicine.

There is no precedent for statewide protocols for EMS in the State of Oregon. Only paramedics could administer these medications within the scope of practice.

A large number of EMS agencies have only EMTs who could not administer this medication so requiring them to carry them would be a valuable waste of resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information for the record.