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On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

I just recently had a knee replacement surgery. About 6 weeks into my recovery I had a scare of an infection, which would have been detrimental in my recovery. I was advised to go to the ER on a weekend in order to have this checked out. I asked if I could go to urgent care. Was told by the attending physician that I could, but would have to wait 7-8 hours to be seen.

I went to ER and was seen rather quickly. However, this left me with a bill for the ER visit and if I had been able to utilize urgent care it would have been a \$5 co-pay and not taken space in the ER for what was a possible infection.

I injured my knee back in November 2021 and it took until December 2022 to get the treatment and surgery required, as it took months in between treatment to get appointments in the clinic. We need to support our health care professionals and safely staff, so we can get the care in the community we are paying for!