



MEMORANDUM

To: Sen. Patterson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health Care
Sen. Hayden, Vice-Chair, Senate Committee on Health Care
Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care

From: Mark Bonanno, General Counsel and Vice President of Health Policy

Date: April 18, 2025

Re: OMA Comments on HB 3242

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) represents and advocates for more than 7,000 physicians, physician associates, medical and PA students across Oregon. Our mission is to support our members in their efforts to practice medicine effectively, improve the health of Oregonians, and provide the highest quality patient care.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the A-Engrossed version of House Bill 3242 which seeks to amend ORS 743B.454 to require health insurers to reimburse healthcare clinicians who are joining an in-network practice at in-network rates during the credentialing period.

HB 3242 supports continuity of patient care by ensuring that new clinicians joining an in-network practice are reimbursed at in-network rates during the credentialing period, preventing disruptions in care delivery. It also promotes equitable compensation by guaranteeing that clinicians providing comparable services to their in-network peers receive fair and equivalent reimbursement, preventing financial disadvantage during the credentialing process. Additionally, the bill enhances administrative efficiency by reducing burdens related to retroactive claims adjustments and payment disputes. Furthermore, fair and timely reimbursement practices make Oregon a more attractive environment for healthcare professionals, strengthening recruitment and retention efforts and ultimately improving the state's healthcare system.

We hope too that an additional outcome of this bill is that health plans are able to streamline their credentialing process. Notably, physicians obtaining a license in Oregon are primary source verified by the Oregon Medical Board. As a result, we believe that in most instances a separate credentialing process by a health plan could be reduced in time. For these reasons the OMA is in support of HB 3242.

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) is the state's largest professional organization engaging in advocacy, policy, and community-building for Oregon's physicians, physician associates, medical students, and physician associate students. The OMA's members speak with one voice as they advocate for policies that improve access to quality patient care, reduce administrative burdens on medical professionals, and improve the health of all Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.