

Submitter: Shandiz Tehrani
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Information Management and Technology
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4054

Dear Co-Chairs Pham, Nathanson and Members of the Joint Information Management and Technology Committee:

My name is Dr. Shandiz Tehrani and I am writing to urge your support of HB 4054. I am an ophthalmologist who provides medical and surgical care to thousands of Oregonians each year.

- This bill adds much needed transparency to the emerging issue of downcoding. Downcoding happens when a provider treats a patient and submits a claim for reimbursement, and the health insurer reimburses them at a lower-level code.
- Recently, some insurers have started to downcode large batches of claims using artificial intelligence (AI) technology.
- The lack of transparency around this process and technology makes it difficult for clinics to track when claims have been downcoded. This means that clinics have to spend significant staff time and hard-earned dollars to track downcoded claims and appeal them. We simply can not allow insurance companies (which are profit-driven) to secretly dictate when and how they pay physicians for their hard work.
- I respectfully urge your support of HB 4054. This bill does not ban the use of AI, it simply adds much needed transparency to this emerging technology.

Shandiz Tehrani, MD, PhD