



**Oregon Chapter
American College of
Emergency Physicians**

February 19, 2026

To: Chair Sen. Deb Patterson
Vice Chair Sen. Cedric Hayden
Members of the Senate Health Care Committee

From: John Moorhead, MD, FACEP,

RE: HB 4053 EMS Modernization Technical Fixes

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Nelson and Diehl 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.

OR-ACEP strongly supports HB 4053 which makes some incremental technical fixes to help implement HB 4081 EMS Modernization (2024) which was championed by Rep. Dacia Grayber. This landmark legislation helps to coordinate emergency health care using a regionalized approach and most importantly, flag problems at the crisis point, determine what services are needed and deliver the patient to the right care, including specialty care centers.

This has been the most important bill for EMS in decades.

HB 4053, takes the next steps with technical fixes for the program. One important component is the creation of a State EMS Fund to be used for donations or federal dollars from the Rural Healthcare Transformation Plan. Funding is urgently needed to address the Emergency Medical Services workforce crisis and staffing shortages. It's also needed to take the next steps towards the creation of a 10-year strategic plan for EMS.

We appreciate the support of this bill and for helping to improve EMS Modernization.

Thank you.

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