



MEMORANDUM

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

From: Courtni Dresser, Vice President of Government Relations

Date: February 23, 2026

Re: Support for HB 4107 – Defining Urgent Care

The Oregon Medical Association represents over 7000 physicians, physician associates, and medical and PA students across our state. Our members practice in emergency departments, urgent care centers, rural clinics, and every setting in between. Many of our members work directly in urgent care.

HB 4107 does several important things. First, it clearly defines what an urgent care center is. It distinguishes urgent care centers from specialty urgent care centers and from hospital emergency departments. Clarity in definition matters — for patients, for regulators, and for clinicians.

Second, it promotes transparency. The bill requires urgent care centers to publicly post key information, including ownership or system affiliation, hours of operation, types of services offered, payment types accepted, diagnostic capabilities, and whether telemedicine is used. That is meaningful, patient-centered transparency. When patients are sick or injured, they should be able to quickly understand where they are going, what services are available, and what to expect.

Third, and importantly, the bill ensures guardrails to prevent misrepresentation. As the Oregon chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) testified, urgent care centers may not represent themselves as emergency departments or use terms such as “E.R.” or “emergency” in a way that would mislead a reasonable person. That distinction protects patients from confusion that can lead to delays in care or unnecessary transfers.

HB 4107 also sets reasonable baseline service expectations and requires that, with limited exceptions, a licensed health care provider be on site during hours of operation. These provisions support safe, reliable access while still allowing operational flexibility when appropriate.

We also want to note that we support the testimony submitted by Oregon ACEP. Emergency physicians and urgent care clinicians alike want patients to receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

Urgent care plays a vital role in Oregon’s health care ecosystem. It improves access for acute but non-life-threatening conditions, reduces pressure on emergency departments, and offers patients timely options. But with that role comes responsibility for transparency and honest representation.

HB 4107 strikes a thoughtful balance. It protects patients, supports clinicians, and creates clearer expectations without unnecessarily limiting access. For those reasons, the Oregon Medical Association respectfully urges your support.