



February 24, 2026

House Committee on Education
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 4160A – Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

Dear Chair Hudson, Vice-Chair Dobson, Vice-Chair McIntire, and members of the House Education Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Fire Marshals Association (OFMA), thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding House Bill 4160A. OFMA represents fire marshals, fire code officials, and fire prevention professionals from jurisdictions across Oregon, including cities, counties, and fire districts. Our members administer and enforce the Oregon Fire Code and related laws, investigate the cause and origin of fires, regulate hazardous materials, and lead community risk reduction efforts. OFMA's mission is to support consistent, technically sound fire and life safety standards that protect the public, emergency responders, and the built environment.

OFMA Supports HB 4160A– Cardiac Emergency Response Plan. Seconds count during a cardiac emergency, especially in young adults. Untrained staff, mismanagement of AED devices within a high stress, high stakes emergency, can lead to valuable time loss. Time is not on anyone's side when it comes to a cardiac emergency. AEDs are a lifesaving device that has proven time and time again to restart the heart.

Developing and implementing an emergency response plan is absolutely key to survival. In the fire service, firefighters train as if it were a real-life scenario, to engrain and develop a habit that is instinctive. Having an emergency response plan provides the means to practice, react, and be instinctive when performing emergency cardiac care. Operating an

AED to administer an electrical shock during an emergency is the basics of performing Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the fourth step in the American Heart Association Cardiac Chain of Survival.

OFMA has taken a supportive stance on this bill. We encourage legislators to continuously support our schools and look for creative ways to adequately fund existing and innovative programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Ratcliff – OFMA President

On behalf of the OFMA Board of Directors and Membership