



MEMORANDUM

To: Sen. Lisa Reynolds, MD Chair, Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health
Sen. Dick Anderson, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health
Members of the Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

From: Courtni Dresser, Vice President of Government Relations

Date: February 23, 2026

Re: Support HB 4070 – A10 amendment

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) represents and advocates for more than 7,000 physicians, physician associates, and 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.

OMA strongly supports the -A10 amendment to HB 4070.

The -A10 amendment clarifies that when behavioral health services are delivered via telemedicine to an Oregon resident on the Oregon Health Plan, those services will be reimbursed by OHA if provided by a clinician who is licensed or certified in Oregon, or by a provider practicing within an appropriately authorized Oregon entity. This brings behavioral health telehealth into alignment with the expectations we already have for physical health services.

This is fundamentally about patient protection and accountability.

Oregon's professional licensing boards exist to protect the public. They conduct background checks, set scope of practice standards, investigate complaints, and take disciplinary action when necessary. When a provider is licensed in Oregon, patients have a clear avenue for recourse if something goes wrong. Without that accountability, patients may have little meaningful protection.

Behavioral health care often involves vulnerable patients in crisis or navigating complex, long-term conditions. Telehealth has expanded access in important ways, and we support its continued use. But expanded access should not come at the expense of oversight or quality standards.

The -A10 amendment does not prohibit out-of-state companies from offering telehealth services to Oregon residents. It does not prohibit the use of telehealth. It simply requires that the clinicians delivering care to Oregonians meet Oregon's standards and be accountable under Oregon law. The bill also maintains a unique pathway for care delivered through Oregon-based facilities and approved entities when there is a need to have individuals on staff who are not licensed or certified who can assist in the provision of services.

It also maintains pathways for care delivered through Oregon-based facilities and approved entities with the use of unlicensed clinicians.

In short, this amendment strengthens consumer protections, ensures consistent standards across physical and behavioral health, and reinforces public trust in our health system.