



January 29, 2024

The Honorable Steve Montenegro
State Representative
205 1700 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Subject: Letter of Support for Arizona House Bill 2093

Dear Chair Montenegro and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

On behalf of the Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA), I am writing to express strong support for Arizona House Bill 2093, which effectively modifies the definition of emergency services as it applies to insurance coverage for emergency health care. Moreover, the bill aims to expand the emergency services definition by incorporating prudent layperson language, enhancing the overall coverage and accessibility of emergency care services for patients in Arizona.

By revising the definition of emergency services, this bill strengthens the prudent layperson standard, which plays a vital role in determining whether an emergency health care visit is covered by insurance. The prudent layperson standard recognizes that a person with average knowledge of health and medicine would reasonably believe that emergency care is necessary under given circumstances. This standard protects individuals from being denied coverage based on retrospective assessments that might vary from the immediate evaluation by a layperson during an emergency.

Furthermore, implementing House Bill 2093 will align Arizona's insurance coverage standards with federal laws and the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This alignment will help create a consistent and fair understanding of emergency services coverage across the state.

In conclusion, we believe that House Bill 2093 represents a significant step towards enhancing emergency care coverage for the people of Arizona. By expanding the definition of emergency services and reinforcing prudent layperson language, this bill ensures that individuals can access the necessary medical services during emergencies without facing unnecessary financial burdens. We strongly urge you to support Arizona House Bill 2093 to safeguard the health and well-being of Arizona's residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you require any further information or have any questions, please feel free to contact our association directly.

Respectfully,

Andrea Brault

Andrea Brault, MD, MMM, FACEP
Chair
Emergency Department Practice Management Association