



February 3, 2012

To: State Senate Committee on Health Care, Human Services & Rural Health Policy
From: Jennifer Pratt, OPCA Deputy Director, Operations & Policy
Re: SB 1580

The Oregon Primary Care Association and its network of community health centers serve more than 312,000 patients through nearly 1.5 million annual visits. These health centers provide high-quality, patient-centered care to Oregonians in all areas of the state, from Bend to Boardman, from Medford to Madras and everywhere in between.

OPCA is proud of Oregon's efforts to transform the state health care system. The legislature created a process to propel transformation forward in 2011, and the Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Health Policy Board carried it forward with input from hundreds of citizens. OPCA staff members and community health center representatives were privileged to participate in this process. We were impressed with the board's willingness to listen and incorporate changes suggested by participants in the numerous statewide public forums. These changes resulted in a document that is an excellent starting point for CCO development in the state. At this point, we are generally encouraged by the evolution of the OHBP's Implementation Plan for CCOs.

SB 1580 recommends adopting this plan. We believe this to be the correct starting point for a legislative discussion of CCO parameters. We believe certain amendments are critical to strengthening the bill and look forward to engaging you in that process. We strongly support this legislation today as the vehicle to begin moving our state forward on CCO formation.

We strongly urge the Senate Committee on Health Care, Human Services and Rural health Policy to vote yes on SB 1580.

Thank you very much for your consideration.