



**Craig Hostetler, Executive Director, Oregon Primary Care Association
Testimony before the Senate Committee on Health Care, Human Services &
Rural Health Policy
2/6/12**

- Thank you, Chair Monnes-Anderson and committee members.
- For the record, my name is Craig Hostetler, and I am the executive director of the Oregon Primary Care Association.
- OPCA recognizes the need to move ahead with health care transformation. It's not our intent to hold up the process.
- However, if we are to eliminate health disparities and achieve the Triple Aim, it's essential that CCO measurement and payment systems account for psychological and social barriers to good health.
- Since the CCO Implementation Plan does not mandate an accounting for these factors, we believe this bill is necessary.
- Thousands of Medicaid patients suffer from one or more psychological or social barriers to health. This is the population we're talking about as we create CCOs.
- Our intent in bringing this bill forward is to emphasize how difficult it is to improve the health of these patients. Not impossible, just much more difficult.
- For example, a provider working to bring diabetes under control in a patient who is homeless and mentally ill is going to face challenges that most providers would rarely, if ever, have to face in bringing their patients' diabetes under control.
- Without this bill, we won't account for the psychological and social complexities in payment and measurement. That's not comparing apples to apples. It will discourage providers from treating the more difficult patient. It will increase health disparities, prevent better health outcomes and prevent us from bending the cost curve for complex patients.
- We ask that you vote Yes on Senate Bill 1522.
- Thank you very much. I'd be happy to take any questions.