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oregonbio.org

February 10, 2012

Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson Chair, Senate Health Care, Human Service and Rural Health Policy Committee **Oregon State Capitol** 900 Court Street, NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express the support of the Oregon Bioscience Association ("Oregon Bio") for the passage of Senate Bill 1570 which would protect open access to medications for Oregon Medicaid recipients.

Senate Bill 1570 would allow Medicaid participants who require certain medications such as immunosuppressants and medications treating HIV/AIDS, mental health, cancer and seizures to receive this medication as directed by and in consultation with these patients' health care providers.

Because Oregon's biotechnology and life science industry is growing, many of our local company members that manufacture medicines and vaccines have an interest in ensuring open access to these medications for our state's neediest population. As such, Oregon Bio members strongly support continued protections of all classes or categories of drug for all who require medical assistance.

We hope as a Committee you will join Oregon Bio in recognizing the importance of this bill. It will benefit and protect patients today and public health well into the future.

Thank you for your support of SB 1570.

Dennis M. Marray

Sincerely,

Dennis McNannay Executive Director **Underwriting Sponsors**

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