



Transforming
health
together.

February 13, 2013

Health Share of Oregon Comments on HB 2133

Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2133, which would require coordinated care organizations (CCOs) to submit their business plans to their Community Advisory Councils for approval. CCOs contract with the State to provide high quality, high value, coordinated care to Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members. Health Share of Oregon is the state's largest CCO, serving approximately 165,000 members in the Portland Metro area. Health Share was created through collaboration of 11 existing organizations that serve OHP enrollees: Adventist Health, CareOregon, Central City Concern, Clackamas County, Kaiser Permanente, Legacy Health, Multnomah County, Oregon Health & Science University, Providence Health & Services, Tuality Healthcare, and Washington County. Health Share is organized as a private non-profit corporation.

Health Share questions the need for this legislation, as the organization already promotes transparency and public input throughout its processes and has a well developed and highly involved Community Advisory Council. In addition, Health Share is concerned that this legislation would require a different makeup for the Council.

Health Share's Community Advisory Council is comprised of true community members, from OHP consumers to representatives of home care workers to mental health advocates and representatives of community service organizations. The Council meets every month in an open forum where community members and the media are welcome. Community members are invited to participate in a public comment period during the first thirty minutes of every meeting. Health Share announces each Council meeting with a press release, in addition to email notification. The Chair of Health Share's Council is an OHP member, a consumer advocate, and a Director on Health Share's governance board.

The Council has advised the Board of Directors throughout development of the organization. In fact, the Council formed and began meeting before the Board of Directors was fully established. The Council has also reviewed Health Share's transformation plan during its public meetings throughout the transformation plan development process, taking public input into account along the way. The Council has been created as and should remain the appropriate forum for public input on the community assessment and transformation plan. However, the Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for decisions that affect the success or failure of the organization.

Health Share's Council is comprised of phenomenal community advocates and people with first-hand knowledge about how CCOs can better serve OHP members. A CCO's business plan is distinct from its health transformation plan. Filling the Council with the people who have the background to not only assess but also approve a business plan would compromise the community-based nature of the Council.

The type of advisors one would want to approve a business plan are business leaders. Health Share's Board of Directors includes representatives from former managed care organizations, mental health organizations, dental health organizations, providers, community members, and a representative of the Council. This is the body designed to make business decisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to express Health Share of Oregon's concerns with HB 2133.

Respectfully Submitted by Janet Meyer, Chief Executive Officer