



MEMORANDUM

To: Chair Greenlick, Vice Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chair Thompson
Members of the House Committee on Health Care

From: Bryan Boehringer, OMA Government Relations
Courtnei Dresser, OMA Government Relations

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Re: SB 470-A

The Oregon Medical Association is pleased to offer our support for SB 470-A. The OMA supported adoption of the original Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program as a valuable tool to help physicians provide the best possible care to their patients. As Oregon faces increasing challenges with drug seeking behavior and opioid abuse in our communities, we are pleased that the monitoring program will be enhanced to make it an even more valuable tool for physicians as they participate in the fight against this difficult societal problem. In particular, we are pleased that:

- Physicians will be able to delegate access to the database to members of their office staff. This change will encourage more extensive usage of the database as time-limited physicians will be able to ask staff to check on the prescribing history of patients as part of the preparation for a patient's visit to the physician.
- Pharmacists will now report more extensive information about a prescription, including such valuable information as the number of days for which the prescription drug was dispensed and the number of refills of the prescription authorized by the practitioner.
- The bill will allow disclosure of information to a physician in a form that catalogs all prescription drugs prescribed by the physician according to the physician's DEA number. This provision will allow a physician to determine if his/her DEA number is being used inappropriately.

The OMA appreciates the good work done on this bill and urges your support.

The Oregon Medical Association is an organization of over 8,100 physicians, physician assistants, and medical students organized to serve and support physicians in their efforts to improve the health of Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.