



An open letter to the Oregon Legislative Assembly from ShelterCare of Lane County

Shelter Care, located in Lane County, OR is asking that you oppose HB 3309. We have been involved in the development of our local CCO and as an organization advocating on behalf of low income Oregonians and consumer voice, we have strong concerns about this legislation.

HB 3309 violates the principles of local control and shared governance

Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) place the responsibility of managing health care in the community. HB 3309 directly contradicts the bedrock value of local control and shared public interest in CCO governance. Moreover, it allows some board members (many of which represent the same profit-driven entity) to use “exile” and punitive pricing to strong-arm other board members who do not have as many votes on a board.

Our concerns for this bill cluster in three main areas:

1. **This bill stifles consumer voice on local boards.** People who are serving on the board on behalf of consumers, and working for better care at lower costs, are often outnumbered by physicians.
2. **This bill hurts local innovation and control.** CCOs are meant to be tailored to local communities. The state should be focused on CCOs meeting outcomes, not on dictating their internal procedures.
3. **This bill is not necessary.** If boards want this procedure, they can decide locally to put it in their bylaws.

Our community deserves a chance to create its own path and solve its own problems without this kind of state interference.

HB 3309 is also a blatant overreach that attempts to have State Government directly intervene in the contract terms between private parties, as well as directly intervene in the outcome of pending legal action.

If HB 3309 passes, it will have a chilling effect on more than just the CCOs with which it directly interferes. How can any organization feel safe to do business in Oregon if the legislature proves that it will abuse its authority and intercede in measures of local control?

HB 3309 would create a backdoor to solving solutions locally. CCOs that currently resolve conflicts locally would all be able to consider the advantage of appealing to the Oregon Health Authority and ‘punishing’ a local competitor.

Please vote no on this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Ban". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan A. Ban
Executive Director
ShelterCare