



10 June 2013

WAYS & MEANS, HUMAN SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE

**OPPOSE HB 3309**

Dear Chair Nathanson, Co-Chair Senator Bates, and Committee Members,

I am Janet Arenz, Executive Director of the Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs. We are a statewide non-profit, supporting good budgets and good policies for children and families, helping to make children Oregon's greatest asset.

We do this by representing \$205 million in small businesses, who deliver services and programs for over 100,000 children. They have a payroll of \$152 million for 5,500 employees and raise \$35 million in philanthropic resources each year.

Member programs span child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, addiction, runaway and homeless, developmental disabilities and prevention.

We oppose HB 3309 for the following reasons:

**ONE CCO ACTION CAN REDUCE CAPACITY FOR EVERY OTHER CCO, AFFECTING MANY OREGONIANS**

- Three of our current behavioral health providers are members of CCO Boards. Many more of my members competed to be on Boards. A significant number of members may be eligible to serve on a Board in the future as CCOs expand what services are under their prevue.
- The majority of those providers serve children, adults and families statewide.
- When they are removed, rate portions are cut 58%. My members are relatively small compared to hospitals and large physician associations. They could not tolerate such a reduction. This would easily result in fiscal instability and decisions to close programs and end services.
- CCO's in all other regions would be impacted by lost capacity and providers because of the action of one CCO.
- This also punishes clients and patients, not just a single CCO Board member.

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## **HONESTY, CANDOR A RESPONSIBILITY**

- CCO's must have as a core value for Board members, that it is their responsibility to be honest, open and candid. Without that core value, the best interests of the clients and patients cannot be achieved. What is the purpose of the Board if not to be innovative, provocative, and honest?

## **REAL VICTIMS**

- This is a private battle in an angry contest between parties who are willing to take down the integrity of the system, and the purpose of community representation; who are willing to punish their CCO colleagues; who are willing to run small nonprofits out of business; and most importantly, to turn the children, adults and families they serve into victims by reducing the availability of services and programs.

Please do not support this bill.  
Thank you.