

Christopher Clarke, MBA, CMPE
5900 Inland Shores Way, Suite 202
Keizer, OR 97303
February 6, 2013

Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson
Chair
Health & Human Services

Dear Senator Anderson:

I am writing to you to ask for your support of Bill 163. The state senate will be voting on this bill soon. As a Manager and Administrator of medical practices for the past ten years, I see a great deal of potential to increase patient care as well as a method to help contain costs with this bill.

This bill is aimed at returning the control and direction of patient care back to the provider, as it relates to utilization of step therapy or “fail first” by insurance companies. Insurance companies use this tool to try to rule out all other less costly medications before approving those medications that the physician originally prescribes and feels are the most medically appropriate treatment for the patient. By doing this, the payers are interfering with the doctor-patient relationship, disrupting patient care and increasing costs, in terms of time and man-hours, on the part of the physician and their clinic.

As the state works towards improving the efficiency of our healthcare system, this bill is an important tool in accomplishing that goal. Not only will it allow Oregonians to receive the proper treatment in a timely manner, it will also make great strides in decreasing costs at the clinic and patient level.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Christopher Clarke, MBA, CMPE