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**TO:** Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair  
Senator Jeff Kruse, Vice Chair  
Senator Tim Knopp, Senator Chip Shields, Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward  
Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services

**FROM:** Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)

**RE:** Senate Bill 122

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to explain our concerns about, and opposition to, Senate Bill 122.

AdvaMed, the Advanced Medical Technology Association, members produce medical devices, diagnostic products and health information systems to achieve earlier disease detection, less invasive procedures and more effective treatments. Over the past decade, our members have led the way in creating breakthrough medical technologies, ranging from pacemakers to blood glucose monitoring systems.

Our member companies range from the largest to the smallest medical technology innovators and manufacturers and actively engage in policy discussions that are critical to securing and preserving access to innovative and lifesaving technologies. We have followed Oregon's Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) closely because their decisions can affect both innovation and patient access.

While AdvaMed supports the use of comparative effectiveness research to inform medical decision-making, we believe that it should not replace medical judgement. Evidence-based guidelines can help both patients and health care providers make informed decisions about medical care, however they should be used as just that – GUIDELINES. Treatment that is "generally best" and dictated by pre-prescribed guidelines may not be the best for an individual patient.

In September, some of our members and representatives met with Dr. Bruce Goldberg of the Oregon Health Authority to express concerns about HERC and the Health Technology Assessment Subcommittee.

We were especially concerned about inadequate public and clinician input into the HERC process.