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**Written Testimony of Rob Bovett before the
Oregon Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services
in Support of Senate Bill 470**

Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice-Chair Kruse, and Senators Knopp, Shields, and Steiner Hayward,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear and testify in favor of Senate Bill 470, and proposed amendments 1, 3, and 7. This bill, and those amendments, will improve the Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) by making it a better tool to provide enhanced healthcare and safety for all Oregonians.

The Oregon PDMP, unlike those operating in some other states, is specifically designed to **not** be a law enforcement tool. I don't need any more business. What we all need is fewer Oregonians getting addicted to prescription drugs in the first place, and less resulting tragedy on lives, families, drug endangered children, and our communities.

The Oregon PDMP is designed to be a valuable tool to improve healthcare, by empowering our practitioners with information regarding potential prescription drug abuse, as well as potentially dangerous drug interactions. The Oregon PDMP is a tool of **prevention**. But, like most prevention tools, our PDMP is only as valuable as it is actually used by prescribers and pharmacists.

Therefore, as a result of hearing from numerous doctors, pharmacists, the Oregon Health Authority, and our Governor's Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force, we have put together Senate Bill 470, as well as proposed amendments 1, 3, and 7, to improve the use and functionality of our PDMP as a prevention tool. Let me be clear: Nothing in Senate Bill 470, or those amendments, is designed to make the Oregon PDMP a law enforcement tool.

On the reverse side of this written testimony, I have provided a brief explanation of the bill, and each of the three proposed amendments. I have also included a graph showing drug abuse trends in Oregon, as shown by one of our most reliable data sets, namely drug treatment admission percentages by primary drug of abuse.

Please support Senate Bill 470, and amendments 1, 3, and 7, and pass the bill out of Committee with a "do pass" recommendation.

Summary of proposed improvements to the Oregon PDMP

Senate Bill 470

- Adds additional data points to the PDMP that are helpful to healthcare.
- Permits a prescriber to utilize their staff to access the PDMP.
- Allows public health authorities to use de-identified PDMP data.
- Protects PDMP data from potential public records issues.
- Permits a prescriber to review prescriptions dispensed under their own DEA number
- Allows the State ME to access PDMP data for autopsies and death investigations.

Dash 1 Amendment

- Allows the Board of Pharmacy to add additional prescription drugs to the PDMP, such as those with a high potential for dangerous interactions or abuse (for example, Tramadol).

Dash 3 Amendment

- Authorizes the PDMP to send out automated notices to prescribers and pharmacists when the system detects a dangerous potential drug interaction, or potential abuse.

Dash 7 Amendment

- Authorizes prescribers and pharmacists in neighboring states who treat Oregonians to access the Oregon PDMP, in order to provide better healthcare.

Oregon Drug Treatment Admissions

