



February 4, 2015

Senator Monnes Anderson, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care

Re: Legacy Health Supports SB 144

Legacy Health is a major healthcare provider with facilities in Oregon and SW Washington. A nonprofit, community-owned system, Legacy employs over 9,500 people, making it one of the region's largest private-sector employers. Legacy admits more than 56,000 people a year to its six hospitals and treats more than a half-million people in outpatient visits.

SB 144 supports the work that Legacy's Telehealth program is developing to improve patient care among its six hospitals as well as extending specialty care to the region. Legacy has participated in the development of SB 144 with other health providers, organizations and health plans to expand coverage for remote delivery of health care services.

The Workgroup participated in coordinated discussion to come to consensus about definitions of transmission, documentation and the implementation date.

The continued growth and expansion of remote Telehealth services increases access to specialty patient care. SB 144 promotes the expansion of these services through consistent language and reimbursement expectations.

Legacy Health urges your support of SB 144. Thank you for your consideration.

Lori Wakashige
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