



MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Greenlick, Chair, House Committee on Health Care
Rep. Hayden, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Health Care
Rep. Nosse, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Health Care
Members of the House Committee on Health Care

From: Bryan Boehringer, OMA Government Affairs
Courtnei Dresser, OMA Government Affairs

Date: February 6, 2015

Re: Support for HB 2294

The Oregon Medical Association is pleased to support HB 2294 as a bill that optimizes health information technology across the medical continuum. HB 2294 expands OHA's current health information technology services beyond Medicaid and allows them to offer programs that benefit all health care providers, health plans, health systems and patients across the state.

For many health care providers, keeping abreast of the many requirements on health transformation initiatives can be challenging, especially as they relate to electronic health record (EHR) systems. We have heard from our members about challenges with implementing patient portals, credentialing order entry staff and frustration with the inability to share records across incompatible systems. Leveraging the existing federal/state Medicaid investment in health information technology services for all providers has the potential to alleviate some of these challenges and lead to better coordinated patient care. The anticipated services, Care Accord[®] and a Provider Directory, would both be voluntary services a provider could use to complement their existing EHR. CareAccord[®] is already available to providers and has assisted many of our members in achieving the meaningful use requirement to share patient data regardless of EHR compatibility. The OMA continues to support programs and services that help our members meet the metrics and expectations of health transformation without adding additional burdens or mandatory costs.

We encourage your support of HB 2294.

The Oregon Medical Association is an organization of over 8,100 physicians, physician assistants, and medical students organized to serve and support physicians in their efforts to improve the health of Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.