



HB 2696 will create efficiencies which will lead to improved health care for Oregonians

Oregon has gone through a massive, one-of-a-kind health care transformation, which has created a more integrated delivery system by breaking down the silos between Physical, Mental and Dental Health. While Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) and providers are creating new, innovative ways to improve care for members of the Oregon Health Plan, much of the regulatory functions have not transformed at the same speed.

House Bill 2696 is attempting to fix this problem by streamlining the auditing of our CCOs. CCOs are overseen by many different agencies and divisions of both State and Federal Government. As a result, the government often conducts audits on Oregon's CCOs. **These duplicative audits often contain hundreds of questions resulting in thousands of pages of answers, costing hundreds of hours of staff time.**

CCOs understand the importance of ensuring they are doing a good job; **however, in some cases CCOs have been audited up to five times in a single year.** When these duplicative audits occur, the various auditing entities are asking for information which had already been provided.

House Bill 2696 has a simple solution to this problem. It will reduce the burden of these audits on CCOs by creating an "audit bank" where the OHA would store auditing information if one has already occurred. If another entity wishes to audit the CCO, that entity would be required to reference the "audit bank" to see which questions have already been answered and would be able to follow up with additional questions if necessary.

COMING SOON

-2 amendments: Auditing the audits.

The -2s would add a section, which would charge the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) with creating a list of all the auditing requirements for the CCOs by the agency overseeing them. This would allow CCOs to know what to expect in a given year and help them in preparing necessary material to make the process as efficient as possible.

Passing this bill will also have other major benefits for the systems:

- Helps the OHA financially by reducing site visits
- "The big look" at what needs to be audited will improve the thoroughness of audits
- It will reduce the burden on CCOs subcontractors, such as Dental Care Organizations and Mental Health Programs
- It will allow more time for CCOs to focus on finding new and innovative ways to provide better services to their members
- It will save both time and money for CCOs and providers

We encourage your support of HB 2696