



February 18, 2015

Health Share of Oregon Comments on HB 2697

Members of the House Committee on Health:

Health Share of Oregon is the state's largest Medicaid coordinated care organization (CCO), serving more than 235,000 Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties. Our organization was founded and continues to be governed by eleven familiar health care organizations serving OHP members. We are writing to express our concerns with HB 2697 as introduced.

HB 2697 would require the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to "adopt consistent, uniform policies and procedures for provision and reimbursement of mental and physical health services" to OHP members and to convene an advisory committee to make recommendations on such policies. We support efforts to reduce administrative burden in the OHP and to further integrate mental and physical health services. In order to maintain fidelity to the intent of the CCO model, it is important that CCOs have the flexibility necessary to develop policies and procedures that are best suited to our partners and communities. The administrative and reimbursement policies that are best for one type of provider or one community are not necessarily ideal for every provider or community. We are concerned that HB 2697, as introduced, may hinder the ability of CCOs to maintain local control of policies and procedures.

Health Share welcomes the opportunity to work with the proponents of the bill to identify ways to reduce administrative burden for mental health providers and to encourage further integration of mental health and physical health services.

Respectfully submitted by Janet L. Meyer, Chief Executive Officer

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