

To: House Committee on Health Care
From: Pamela Edinger, Corvallis
Date: February 25, 2015
Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2758

Chair Greenlick and the members of the House Healthcare Committee:

My husband and I are parents of two young adult daughters who are both covered under an employer group health insurance plan through my husband's business in Corvallis. One daughter, age 24, lives and works in Eugene and one daughter is a 21-year-old college student in Salem. My daughters have complete autonomy for their healthcare decisions. My husband and I encourage our daughters to seek any health treatment they feel they might need, and to use our family health insurance to cover the cost of the services.

My daughters are more likely to seek the medical treatment they need if they are assured of complete confidentiality, particularly for sensitive health services. The health insurer's practice of sending an EOB to my husband, as the policy subscriber, undermines that confidentiality. My daughters' rights to complete confidentiality in their medical treatment outweighs any rights my husband or I might have to know about details of claims being made under our family's insurance policy.

I do not want my daughters to forgo or delay treatment out of a concern about confidentiality. I want no barriers to my daughters' willingness to obtain medical treatment. HB 2758 eliminates a barrier. By requiring that the insurer's communication goes to the patient who received the sensitive health service, instead of to the policyholder, the patient's confidentiality is protected. I believe HB 2758 will help ensure that my young adult daughters will feel free to access all the medical treatment they need.

Thank you,

Pamela Edinger
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