

Providence Health & Services
4400 N.E. Halsey St., Building 2
Suite 599
Portland, OR 97213
www.providence.org/oregon



March 11, 2015

The Honorable Monnes Anderson
Chair, Senate Committee on Health Care
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Senate Bill 37, Extending rural provider tax credit

Dear Senator Monnes Anderson and members of the committee:

Providence Health & Services continually strives to ensure that individuals residing in the rural communities we serve have timely access to the highest quality health care services. While we are accomplishing this in a number of innovative ways, our success ultimately depends on the willingness of qualified clinicians to live and work in rural communities.

This program serves two critical roles in addressing the work force issues many of these Oregon communities face: it acts as a motivator for clinicians when choosing between rural and urban settings; and offers important on-going assistance to providers and their families. As such, the tax credit established in SB 37 should be seen as key to achieving health care transformation efforts statewide and a direct investment in the frontline clinicians themselves.

Oregon's investment in rural clinicians will yield immediate rewards for their families and long-term benefits for the communities they serve. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 37, we hope you'll join us in support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward Freysinger".

Edward Freysinger
Chief executive
Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Blauer".

Michael Blauer
Chief executive
Providence Seaside Hospital