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March 18, 2015

The Honorable Mitch Greenlick  
Chair, House Committee on Health Care  
State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: House Bill 3486, Pharmaceutical price transparency

Dear Representative Greenlick and members of the committee:

On behalf of Providence Health & Services we urge your support of House Bill 3486, requiring greater transparency around pharmaceutical pricing in Oregon.

Over the last five years policy makers, consumers, health plans, hospitals and clinicians have thoughtfully come together to address the rising cost of health care. Individually, we've been challenged to innovate and take accountability for changing systems and structures that no longer serve Oregon well. Many of these efforts include mechanisms that promote transparency and help ensure we're making meaningful change.

The challenge we face in the next five years is how to maintain the progress we've made around access and affordability. While health systems and health plans know there is more work to do, it is essential that we manage pharmaceutical costs – a major cost driver that continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. If this doesn't occur, efforts around health care transformation could be unraveled, particularly in rural communities.

Providence appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 3486. It is our hope that policymakers continue to have conversations about addressing the impact of high-cost drugs and pursue mechanisms like House Bill 3486 that create transparency in the system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Theron Park".

Theron Park  
Chief Executive, Delivery System  
Providence Health & Services - Oregon