



Legacy Health
1919 N.W. Lovejoy St.
Portland, OR 97209
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April 8, 2015

Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair
and Members, House Committee on Health Care

Re: Legacy Health Supports HB 2028

Legacy Health supports HB 2028, which recognizes pharmacists as healthcare providers. Provider status will increase access and improve quality by enabling pharmacists to provide patient care services (clinical pharmacy services) consistent with their education, training and license.

Pharmacists have specific expertise in the area of medication use and work collaboratively with physicians and other health care providers to help patients achieve optimal health outcomes. We view pharmacists within Legacy as an essential member of the healthcare team who provide expertise on medication management. Our pharmacists are increasingly focused on improving transitions in care and optimizing medications through collaborative drug therapy management protocols.

Legacy is utilizing pharmacists in our primary and specialty clinics to provide coordination of medications during care transitions, medication management, comprehensive medication reviews with ongoing medication monitoring, chronic disease management, disease education, prevention and wellness services, and patient education. By having pharmacists as part of the team, our physicians are able to see more patients. As the shortage of primary care physicians increases, so too will the challenges that patients in communities face, especially those related to access.

Legacy Health continues to invest in ensuring an ongoing supply of trained pharmacists to serve in the role of a provider by training students entering the profession. Legacy Health provides clinical training rotations to pharmacy students in their last year of school as well as post-graduate residency training for pharmacists.

Postgraduate year one residencies are accredited programs that build upon knowledge, skills, attitudes and abilities gained from accredited professional pharmacy degree programs. They enhance general competencies in managing medication-use systems and support medication therapy outcomes for patients with a broad range of disease states. They help graduates to more rapidly develop confidence as a team member, and also enhance preparation for specialized areas of care. Legacy Health also offers a post-graduate year two pharmacy residency program with a focus on transitions in care.



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Legacy Health is a major nonprofit health care provider in Oregon and Southwest Washington. With six medical centers throughout the Portland-Vancouver region, Legacy treats more than half a million outpatients annually and admits more than 56,000 people each year to our facilities.

Legacy Health urges you to support HB 2028 to assure continuing access to quality healthcare in the state for all of our patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol Bradley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping line extending from the end of the name.

Carol Bradley, MSN, RN, CENP
Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer