



May 21, 2015

Chair Lively, Members
House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Re: Senate Bill 93 – Support

Good Afternoon,

For the record, my name is BJ Cavnor and I serve as Executive Director with One in Four Chronic Health. One in Four Chronic Health is a collaborative for people living with chronic health conditions in Oregon. We work to facilitate improved access to affordable health care for through policy and advocacy, at the state and federal level.

One of the simplest and most cost effective steps we can take to improve health is to improve adherence among people who require daily medication to manage their health.

According to a report by the RANDS Corporation, cost (and cost sharing) is the greatest barrier to improved adherence. For patients who depend on multiple medications, the difficulties, (including time and travel expense) of multiple pharmacy trips creates other impediments.

It is for these reasons that we support Senate Bill with the dash -13 Amendment.

A 90-day supply of medication for the treatment of ongoing chronic medical conditions allows patients the choice in how they best see fit to manage their medication. Because Oregon already enjoys a 90% generic drug fill rate, it seems unnecessary to limit a 90-day supply to generic drugs only. Instead we ask that the 90-day supply be offered to patients on all drugs that are applicable to the existing insurance plan rules.

We also support patients being able to choose between mail order and local community pharmacies, as the Oregon Health Authority has allowed for patients using CAREAssist, our AIDS Drug Assistance Program. This is a critical provision for people without a permanent address and those who depend on their relationships with community pharmacists as members of their health care delivery team.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 206/601-8453 or via email BJ@1-in-4.org .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BJ Cavnor", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

BJ Cavnor,
Executive Director