

House Joint Memorial 14

Sponsored by Representative BUEHLER, Senator KNOPP, Representative WHISNANT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requests that Department of Veterans Affairs Portland Regional Benefit Office release data regarding Patient-Centered Community Care program.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs
Portland Regional Benefit Office:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the State of Oregon should ensure access to timely and quality health care for Oregon veterans no matter where they live; and

Whereas rural veterans often have to drive several hours, sometimes in hazardous road conditions, to receive medically necessary treatment or procedures from Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers; and

Whereas the Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) program is a five-year program awarding contracts amounting to over \$9 billion to companies for the purpose of setting up networks to provide timely and quality care through veterans' local providers and eliminate long, costly and often treacherous drives to distant VA medical centers; and

Whereas health care providers and veterans in central Oregon had been calling for a program similar to PC3 seven years ago; and

Whereas in implementing PC3, the VA stated goals of reducing costs in providing health care as well as reducing wait times; and

Whereas PC3 was initiated in September 2013 and has now been operating for around 18 months, enrolling providers and patients in the program; and

Whereas the VA should now have enough data to provide the public with numbers showing the effectiveness of PC3 to date; and

Whereas the VA has yet to provide information showing the number of veterans served by Community-Based Outpatient Clinics at the city, county or state level, the number of providers enrolled by PC3 contractors, waiting times or funds expended by the PC3 contractors; and

Whereas PC3 and the new but also temporary VA Choice Program have the potential to become permanent medical community cooperative programs; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, respectfully request that the Department of Veterans Affairs Portland Regional Benefit Office make public information on the Patient-Centered Community Care program, including data on the program's effectiveness and the

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 number of veterans served by the program; and be it further

2 Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and
3 to the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs Portland Regional Benefit Office.

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