

Providence Health & Services
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February 1, 2016

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

RE: HB 4015, Vision care coverage

Dear Representative Greenlick and members of the committee:

On behalf of both Providence Health Plan and Providence Health & Services, we appreciate the Committee revisiting this important issue.

From the perspective of both an insurer and provider, we understand that contracting often feels like an inconvenience. In most cases neither insurers nor providers leave with everything they want. Nevertheless, it's important that we do not use the legislative process to circumvent these critical business relationships.

Contracting allows an opportunity to develop partnerships and ensures that, where possible, we are aligning shared goals across insurance markets and the continuum of care. Most importantly contracting also ensures that customers get high quality services at affordable prices, and providers are adequately reimbursed.

As we continue down the path of health care transformation, our ability to achieve the Triple Aim, particularly as it relates to affordability, only becomes more difficult. Our success depends on all health care stakeholders remaining engaged in the dialogue and being open to finding new ways to control cost.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input regarding House Bill 4015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Underriner".

Dave Underriner
Chief Executive Officer
Providence Health & Services - Oregon