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Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

For the record, I am Jim Bunn from Amity, Oregon representing Advantage Dental.

In 1989, I had the privilege of debating on the Senate floor what would become the Oregon Health Plan.

It has evolved greatly from the original ideas of then Senate President John Kitzhaber.

At times it is hard to remember some of the details of that evolution. Fortunately we have good records including audio of floor sessions.

In 2011, HB 3650, and a year later SB 1580 made huge changes to Oregon's healthcare system. Change brings fear and fear brings a need for assurances. DCO's feared being lost in the stampede toward transformation. We asked for, and were given assurances that we would be included in governance of the CCO's. That has not happened within most of our CCO's.

Speaker Kotek, Representative Freeman, Dr. Bates and Dr. Steiner-Hayward were carriers of SB 1580 in their respective chambers. The first three called out dental in an effort to assure us that we would have a voice on governance of CCO's.

On the House Floor on February 23, 2012, Representative Freeman as carrier stated:

"SB 1580 is an important bill that provides the framework to coordinate the major components of the Oregon Healthcare Plan. These include, but are not limited to physical, mental, behavior, and oral health care delivered..." – Source: OLIS 2/23/12 Audio time: 1:16:17

On the Senate Floor on February 14, 2012, Doctor Bates, as co-carrier stated:

"It provides structure of the governance requirements, insures participation of all major providers including dental MCO's within the governance structure." – Source OLIS 2/14/12 Audio time: 53:34

The legislative intent was clear. DCO's were to be included in the governance of CCO's. Now, five years later only a few CCO's have acted to truly integrate oral health with physical and behavioral health.

HB 2882 will restore the intent of SB 1580 by putting one DCO representative on each CCO board.