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February 7, 2018

Chair Greenlick & Members,
House Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support of HB 4156

Chair Greenlick and Committee Members,

We are writing to support HB 4156, Relating to prescription drug coverage by health benefit plans.

One in Four Chronic Health is a 501(c)3 non-profit advocacy organization working to improve affordable treatment access for people living with chronic health conditions.

People can be impacted with chronic health conditions over the course of their lifetimes, requiring different levels of treatment and care. In many cases, these are (were) considered "pre-existing medical conditions", prior to the passage of the Affordable Care Act health in 2010. Insurers were not required to provide coverage to people with pre-existing medical conditions, or were allowed to deny treatment of the conditions for specified lengths of time.

One in Four Chronic Health has been working on the issue of transparency in health care since in Oregon since 2013. The ability for patients, and their providers, to access specific and accurate coverage information, including price, for prescription drug therapies is critical to making informed treatment decisions.

For patients who require continued maintenance with prescription drug therapies, the ability to know that their individual share of cost will remain constant over the plan year is one less obstacle to overcome in managing their health.

We support greater transparency in health care costs, including how health insurers make pricing and tiering decisions. HB 4156 is an important step in this direction.

I am available to answer any questions and may be reached at:
bcavnor@1in4health.org.

Sincerely,

BJ Cavnor
Executive Director

a voice for patients