



Subject: Senate Bill 765

From: Central City Concern

To: Chair Senator Monnes-Anderson, Vice-Chair Senator Dennis Linthicum and members of the Senate Health Care Committee

Date: 3/4/2019

Central City Concern is a non-profit direct service organization that provides integrated primary and behavioral health care, supportive and affordable housing, and employment services to people impacted by homelessness in the Tri-County area. Central City Concern operates about 2,000 units of affordable housing, serves 9,000 patients annually through our 13 Federally Qualified Health Centers, makes 1,200 job placements annually and operates social services for the community justice programs in Multnomah and Clackamas counties. This year we are celebrating 40 years of service to our communities.

We are writing in support of Senate Bill 765 regarding primary care spending. Research shows that greater use of primary care is associated with lower costs, higher patient satisfaction, fewer hospitalizations and emergency department visits, and lower mortality. A study of Oregon's Patient Centered Primary Care Home Program (PCPCH) estimated \$240 million in savings over its first three years.

Current payment models do not support innovations in primary care. Despite efforts to move away from fee-for-service reimbursement, health insurers have not yet implemented a payment methodology that reimburses based on value rather than volume. Central City Concern has worked very hard to create more intentional and integrated models of care that support higher expectations for care coordination and long-term planning for those with complex health needs. We have done this in some cases despite current industry practice rather than in alignment. We believe that SB 765 and recommendations from the Primary Care Payment Reform Collaborative could push our health service field to further innovate and collaborate to improve health outcomes.

Thank you,

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