

May 6, 2019

Oregon State Legislature
House Committee on Rules
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3076 – OAHHS Comments

Chair Holvey and members of the House Committee on Rules:

The Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS) appreciates the work that Representative Salinas and Representative Greenlick have done over the years to modernize Oregon's community benefit and financial assistance statute. OAHHS recognizes the extensive work done to address the significant concerns OAHHS has had with the introduced version of HB 3076.

The -6 amendment makes some key changes including removing the tie to hospital facility licensure. OAHHS understands that there are additional amendments in the works that will address some of the concerns that hospitals and other stakeholders have raised, including changes to the patient screening and debt collection sections.

While the -6 amendment and pending changes are a step in the right direction, there are three important changes that are necessary for OAHHS which we have shared with the sponsor.

1. The community benefit spending floor program and patient screening requirements must only apply to hospitals and **non-profit** hospital affiliated clinics.
2. The criteria for establishing the community benefit spending floor use **uniformly applied** objective data and criteria to ensure consistency in program implementation.
3. The Oregon Health Authority **must** adopt rules necessary to carry out the provision of Section 6, the community benefit spending floor program, to ensure the program design elements are informed by experts.

OAHHS also requests the Oregon Health Authority establish intent on the record on their understanding of Section 6, subsection (3) of the spending floor program to ensure all entities are interpreting the language with a shared understanding.

We also look forward to working on these changes with Rep. Salinas and stakeholders as this conversation continues.

Thank you,



Sean Kolmer
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Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems