



June 21, 2022

Co-Chairs Senator Steiner Hayward, Representative Prusak
Vice Chairs Senator Kennemer and Representative Hayden
Members of the Bridge Plan Task Force

The provider organizations supporting these comments represent many of the specialty physicians and physician assistants practicing in all corners of the state. Our members are committed to safe, accessible healthcare, and greatly appreciate the work of the Task Force, which we believe will further these goals. We also believe this opportunity to increase coverage fits squarely into critical health equity goals, and the implementation and details of the plan will be crucial to ensure that we all meet the stated goals.

We know that insurance coverage is not the same as access to healthcare, although it is a key piece of the puzzle. We look forward to working with the Task Force to ensure that the plan created allows for key principles to be met:

- Any plan must include broad robust benefit plan for enrollees that is similar to the Oregon Health Plan which would allow for continuity of care as enrollees move from OHP to the Bridge Plan.
- The plan must be administratively simple for both the patients and their providers, thus reducing a drop of a patient due to administrative hurdles.
- The plan and the administration of the sign-up process should be equitable and ensure that the state and its stakeholders have the funding needed to reach all patients to ensure that they are enrolled and continue to have access to care.
- The plan should have a robust network of providers to ensure access to quality care for all within the plan. To ensure an adequate network the plan should include a provider rate that is above the current Medicaid rate, and is not benchmarked to public payer rates.

We respectfully encourage the Task Force to move in the creation of a bridge plan that will include a solid benefit package, and sufficient provider reimbursement to ensure true access to care and robust provider panels, and investment in an equitable administrative process.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your work on this important effort,

CC:

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