



04.01.2021 CareOregon Testimony to House Health Care Committee

Chair Prusak, Vice-Chairs Hayden & Salinas, & Members of the House Health Care Committee:

CareOregon is a nonprofit that has served Oregon Health Plan members for over 25 years and is a founding member of Health Share of Oregon, one of the CCOs that contracts to manage Medicaid benefits in the Portland Metro area. CareOregon manages the behavioral health benefits for all of Health Share's 300,000 members, the physical health benefits for 200,000 of those members, and dental health benefits for 70,000 Health Share Members. Additionally, CareOregon manages OHP benefits for 45,000 members in Jackson County through ownership of Jackson Care Connect, and 30,000 members in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties through ownership of Columbia Pacific CCO.

CareOregon's mission is to build individual well-being and community health through partnerships, shared learning, and innovation. Our vision is healthy communities for all individuals, regardless of income, or social factors. We write in support of the Data Justice Act (HB 3159), as it is important that we have the necessary REAL-D and SOGI data to support us in achieving these ends and our state's collective goal of health equity. As has been demonstrated with the successes of the CCO incentive metric program, CCOs and our provider networks need this shared data to make changes and design systems that deliver improved health outcomes for our members.

As with all health information technology and data endeavors, the importance of thoughtful, collaborative implementation planning with stakeholders cannot be understated. While we fully appreciate the urgency of this important work, we want to make sure to be deliberate and improve upon the health system's equity data collection efforts to date. We look forward to engaging with OHA, providers, and other stakeholders to ensure sure we do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "H. B. Rigsby".

Jeremiah Rigsby, JD
Chief of Staff
CareOregon

