

Scott Shollenbarger testimony for House Health Committee hearing on February 9, 2021

My name is Scott Shollenbarger, and I am the CFO for The Corvallis Clinic. The Corvallis Clinic is a multi-specialty outpatient medical clinic that is a physician owned, provider led organization that has been providing high quality outpatient medical services to the residents of Linn and Benton Counties for greater than 70-years. The Corvallis Clinic is proud to be an Oregon based B Corporation.

I am one of the representatives of the Oregon Independent Medical Coalition. This Coalition represents multiple organizations consisting of 1,250 medical providers and 5,000 employees that provide high quality, efficient, and optimally priced health care services to greater than 2 million Oregonians, ranging from Portland to Coos Bay and Bend.

The Oregon Independent Medical Coalition is opposed to HB 2362.

As independent medical groups, our coalition members are committed to maintaining their independence as Oregon businesses. We are unified in our commitment not to be acquired by any large hospital system or private equity firm. We passionately believe that healthcare is best delivered in an independent business model that is owned and governed by the owners of the business that also are responsible for the delivery of medical services to our respective populations.

In our continuous efforts to remain independent in this competitive environment, our like-minded medical clinics meet with one another on a routine basis and seek out creative collaboration, best practices, and innovative strategies that will better serve our patients, improve patient access, provide high quality healthcare services, all with keeping the cost of healthcare services at reasonable levels, as well as evaluating how our business decisions impact our society and environment.

As an example, The Corvallis Clinic partners with outpatient sleep centers on the Coast that empowers residents of the greater Newport area to have all the benefits of Polysomnography services in their hometown, eliminating the need to

travel to area hospitals for these services. Note that this benefit does not create duplicate services of healthcare providers, lowers healthcare costs by having these procedures performed at non-facility environment, and provides optimal medical care for our patients.

Another example of innovative healthcare delivery of like-minded independent medical clinics in Corvallis occurs when sub-specialists, such as Oncology, Spine/Pain Management, and Nephrology have a physical presence on our campuses, allowing these Physicians to provide direct medical care to the patients of The Corvallis Clinic in a central location that also includes Outpatient Laboratory and Imaging Services. These collaborative partnerships directly facilitate optimal patient care, facilitate excellent quality outcomes and metrics for our patients, while sustaining affordable pricing to our patients.

These are the types of partnerships and innovative healthcare delivery services that HB 2362 is placing in peril, and this is not in the best interest of the citizens of Oregon, Independent Medical Groups operating in the Great State of Oregon, and if enacted into law will certainly lead to increasing healthcare costs.

HB 2362 will directly diminish the collaborative spirit of medical delivery and further the delay any efforts to enhance more collaborative health care delivery models to the residents of Oregon. Additionally, independent health care clinics do not have the administrative staff or financial resources to combat the headwinds generated from the myriad of hearings and governmental reviews to secure permission to implement these types of collaborative healthcare delivery systems to our respective patients.

The State of Oregon is already burdened with significant government regulations and protections that oversee the health care system - we are respectfully requesting that the Legislatures not add additional layers of rules and regulations to this process.

In the end, patients with health care needs will lose out, and this is not in the best interests of all Oregonians.

Thank you for listening to these concerns, and we hope you will decide to not advance this legislation.