

February 22, 2021

The Honorable Deb Patterson, Chairperson
Senate Committee On Health Care
Oregon Senate
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301



Re: Senate Bill 558

Dear Senator Patterson,

Moda Health presents this letter in opposition to Senate Bill 558, a bill that seeks to limit Oregonian's ability to use mail order pharmacies for their prescription medications.

SB 558 prohibits health plans or pharmacy benefit managers to have contracts that require prescriptions for drugs to be filled or refilled at a mail order pharmacy. The bill would prohibit limitations on prescription drugs from being filled or refilled by a local pharmacy. SB 558 seeks to reverse a decades long use of mail order pharmacies for individuals who have a recurrent need for certain medications to have their prescriptions delivered directly to their home. Eliminating a health plan's ability to use the proven value of mail order pharmacies, especially during a pandemic, would be harmful to consumers who rely on these services to keep themselves safe.

SB 558 is not an attempt to fix a broken or ailing system. In fact, it is the opposite. It would create a significant disadvantage for Oregonians who rely on access to a mail order pharmacy for their medications.

Oregon is a diverse state with vast areas that are sparsely populated. Having access to a conveniently located pharmacy can be challenging to many Oregonians. Mail order pharmacies have a proven history providing convenient access, timely delivery and effective cost management. Mail order pharmacy services have also been proven to be more accurate and can lead to greater medication adherence for patients with chronic conditions. SB 558 would remove the ability for individuals who rely on mail order pharmacies to deliver their chronic use medications.

Moda Health appreciates the opportunity to comment on SB 558. We respectfully request that the committee incorporate our comments in consideration of this Bill. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me at: robert.judge@modahealth.com, or (503)703-2195.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robt Judge".

Robert Judge
Director, Pharmacy Services



modahealth.com

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