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Senator Winsvey Campos, Co-Chair  
Representative Andrea Valderrama, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Services  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Delivered electronically.

**Re: House Bill 5026**

Co-chairs Campos and Valderrama, and members of the subcommittee:

The PacificSource companies are independent, not-for-profit health insurance providers based in Oregon. We serve over 600,000 commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare Advantage members in four states. PacificSource Community Solutions is the contracted coordinated care organization (CCO) in Central Oregon, the Columbia River Gorge, Marion & Polk Counties, and Lane County. Our mission is to provide better health, better care, and better value to the people and communities we serve.

We write to underscore the importance of a well-functioning ONE eligibility system in terms of carrying out health care initiatives in Oregon. In a federal budget deal to de-couple Medicaid eligibility from the ongoing public health emergency, states must begin to ensure Medicaid members remain eligible for medical assistance starting April 1, 2023. As the agency reported in the February 8 public hearing, Oregon enrolled more than 1.4 million people in the Oregon Health Plan during the suspension of eligibility checks. Furthermore, the § 1115 demonstration waiver approved for 2022-2027 will change eligibility criteria for children up to six years of age and add a two-year enrollment period for children six years and older. If Oregon moves forward with a basic health plan under § 1331 of the Affordable Care Act, those individuals whose incomes fall between 138% and 200% of the federal poverty level would also depend on eligibility checks to enroll in the plan. All these initiatives will put additional pressure on the current ONE system.

We understand that the subcommittee has many difficult decisions ahead in crafting the human services portion of the legislatively adopted budget. We do believe that consideration of the resources needs of the ONE system should be part of those overall decisions.

For questions or concerns, please contact me at or [richard.blackwell@pacificsource.com](mailto:richard.blackwell@pacificsource.com).

Sincerely,

/s

Richard Blackwell  
Director, Oregon Government Relations