

MAXINE E. DEXTER, MD
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT 33



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To: Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

Date: March 22, 2023

Subject: Support HB 2878 and -1

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, members of the Committee:

For the Record, my name is Dr. Maxine Dexter and I am honored to be the State Representative for House District 33, which includes NW & Downtown Portland, Linnton, and Cathedral Park. I am grateful for this opportunity today to present to you HB 2878 with the -1 amendment, the Aligning for Health Pilot Program, and urge your support.

The bill before you today is the product of many months of work by my team, the OHA and their contractors, and many stakeholders who have spent hours in collaborative discussion. Today you will hear from or be able to review written testimony from several participants. As the members of this committee are well aware, health care is unaffordable for Oregon families and businesses. Most importantly, a fragmented and misaligned health system means that health inequities persist and resources are suboptimally utilized. The current way we reimburse care is broken – fee for service compensation focuses on specific healthcare services delivered rather than the outcomes of our care. The need to transition to a system that reimburses on the basis of positive health outcomes, meaningful access, and quality of care and service has never been clearer as we grapple with the reality of our fragmented and unaffordable system. A Global Budget reimbursement model is a true value-based payment. It means the healthcare delivery system knows exactly how much it will receive per person, per month, to then pay clinicians and care providers in the community to deliver all services and keep people healthy. Preventive care and primary care will be prioritized. Every part of the system does better if people are healthy - thus the name “Aligning for Health.”

I am honored to be joined here today by Co-Chief Sponsors Senator Anderson, who will speak to the potential this bill offers communities, and Representative Reynolds, who will speak to the importance of incentivizing preventive care. Additionally, Bruce Goldberg will give an overview of the bill, Bruce Butler, CEO of InterCommunity Health Network

CCO and Samaritan Health Plans, and Rick Blackwell of PacificSource will speak to the opportunities this bill provides for collaboration between hospitals, insurers, and providers. We also have experts here from the OHA who are available to answer further questions. For your information, we have submitted for the record OHA's Recommendations and Policy Considerations for Aligning for Health (A4H) and BerryDunn's Aligning for Health reports from July 1 and June 24, 2022, respectfully -these summarize the extensive pre-work that has been completed.

This pilot is an opportunity to innovate. It is a voluntary option for a community that wishes to try a different approach to healthcare delivery. There is no mandate in this bill, and it is a prime example of allowing autonomy and community-centered innovation at a local level while increasing accountability in the healthcare system. Smarter spending in the health system allows us as a state to invest more upstream where it is desperately needed – housing, education, our justice system, and more. None of this is possible until our current system is more sustainable. Let's put another option on the table. One that has the potential to move Oregon further toward affordability and patient-centered care with a global budget payment model. Colleagues, I urge your strong support for HB 2878 -1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dexter', written in a cursive style.

Representative Maxine Dexter, M.D.
House District 33 (NW & Downtown Portland, Linnton, & Cathedral Park)