

Oregon House Health Care Committee 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Support for HB 4011** 

Feb. 6, 2024

Chair Nosse, members of the committee,

The Northwest Kidney Council is grateful for the opportunity to support HB 4011, and specifically the new requirement that requires the inclusion of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) for specified recipients of medical assistance.

The Northwest Kidney Council partners with patient advocates, health care professionals, care providers and researchers to advance kidney care in both Washington and Oregon. Together we are committed to ensuring that all patients with kidney disease receive high quality care and that treatment is accessible to all.

Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney disease throughout the country. Nearly a third of Americans have prediabetes and most people with prediabetes don't know they have it. Of the more than 8,400 Oregonians living with End Stage Renal Disease, diabetes is a major contributor to the decline in their kidney health.

Chronic kidney disease is called a "silent disease" because most people don't know they have it. But if it is caught early, there are treatment options that can greatly slow the progression of the disease and prevent the need for dialysis or a kidney transplant.

That is why it is imperative that we provide all Oregonians with the tools they need to manage their diabetes diagnosis. With this bill, Oregon has the opportunity to join the majority of other states in the country in providing CGM coverage for Oregonians who use insulin.

Thank you for considering our perspective. We encourage the committee to support this commonsense approach to bridging an important gap in access to care.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Brown
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