

MAXINE E. DEXTER, MD
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 33



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Date: February 7, 2024

Subject: Support HB 4091

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

I am 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 to share my strong support for HB 4091, which would establish a Health Insurance Mandate Review Advisory Committee (MRAC) to help legislators make informed and accurate decisions regarding proposed bills that create mandates for health plans to cover certain benefits or require certain payments to providers.

As a clinician and legislator, it's important to me that we make optimally informed policy decisions. We as legislators cannot be subject matter experts in all areas and it is in the best interest of good policy making to have robust methodologies to inform our decisions so that we optimally serve our constituents and the people of Oregon. We will accomplish this goal in areas of medical insurance mandates with the establishment of the Mandate Review Advisory Committee. This group will include a balanced membership of experts who will follow a standardized process for holistically reviewing health insurance mandates. They will leverage the insight and expertise of people who understand the implications of policy decisions to make recommendations to the legislators who will ultimately retain the responsibility of making independent policy decisions.

HB 4091 will increase equity and accountability in healthcare coverage for Oregonians, and will help ensure informed and transparent decisions are made by legislators. I urge you to pass HB 4091 to establish the MRAC, helping ensure the needs of all Oregonians are balanced with the desire for mandated coverage for targeted populations.

Sincerely,

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

Representative Maxine Dexter, M.D.

House District 33 (Northwest and Downtown Portland, Linnton, and Cathedral Park)