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February 19, 2024

Chair Fahey

Vice-Chair Helfrich

Vice-Chair Kropf

Members of the House Committee on Rules

RE: HB-4028, Testimony in Support

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice-Chair Helfrich, Vice-Chair Kropf and member of the Committee.

We respectfully ask that if HB-4028 is passed the Oregon Health Authority will please study the feasibility of removing current barriers to access of care by some coordinated care organizations (CCOs).

Some CCOs require pre-authorization and/or a referral by an Oregon Health Plan patients primary care provider (PCP) to access treatment by chiropractors, licensed acupuncturists, and licensed massage therapists.

Since, it can take weeks or even several months for an OHP patient to see their PCP, this places an inappropriate burden on patients suffering from back and spinal pain and can lead to patients seeking potentially harmful OTC and even illicit pain medications.

Additionally, we ask the OHA research the feasibility of increasing the level of reimbursement to chiropractors, acupuncturists, massage therapists as well as other healthcare providers. The current low reimbursement being a significant deterrent to provider participation. For example, I am currently the only chiropractor in Albany that accepts OHP patients via my local CCO.

July of this year, Oregonians up to the age of 65 whose income is within 200% of federal income poverty level will be eligible for the Oregon Health Plan. Therefore, approximately half the state's population will become eligible only exacerbating these access issues.

Thank you,


Vern A. Saboe, Jr., DC., DACAN., FICC., DABFP., DACO

Oregon Chiropractic Association

TOGETHER WE ARE ALIGNED