

Submitter: Dr Mike Shirtcliff
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: HB4130

HB4130 In Support

HB4130 Testimony of Dr Mike Shirtcliff

Madam Chair and Members of the committee,
For the record, I'm Dr Mike Shirtcliff. I'm from Redmond, Or.

I founded what became Oregon's largest DCO/CCO based upon the number of patients served.

I can tell you first hand the risk of selling an Oregon business that was dedicated to serving low income Oregonians. We served over 300,000 Oregonians and developed a new model, concentrating on preventing disease rather than the failed "drill and fill" of the past. We worked with moms to prevent dental infection in their babies and utilized Silver Diamine Fluoride to revolutionize dentistry. We were approached by a much larger national company. They had 22 MILLION PATIENTS and we felt our model could go national by allowing them to buy our company. WE WERE WRONG.

Local control was lost and instead of expanding our vision across the country, the "bean counters" replaced the providers in setting the standard of care.

When providers objected and even decided to switch CCOs to stay with an OREGON company, they were threatened with legal action for attempting to tell patients that they could STAY WITH THEIR PROVIDER if they so chose.

Patient CHOICE is supposed to be a key component of the Oregon Health Plan. I would like to see HB4130 include protection for the patients to choose, and freedom for the provider to share that information, without risk of legal problems.

If we had more time I would talk about the need for provider flexibility if a CCO/DCO sells out but I will submit those thoughts in writing.

The draft-8 amendments are an effort to address the issues I have mentioned. Since they just became available today I have not had time to analyze them but I'm supportive of the concept and hope they can be incorporated in future efforts to protect low income Oregonians.

Thank you for letting me share my thoughts. I'm happy to answer any questions.

due to weather conditions and unsafe roads on the Santiam Pass Dr. Shirtcliff's testimony was provided in WRITTEN form rather than delivered orally