



BEND DERMATOLOGY
CLINIC

February 26, 2024

Senator Patterson, Chair
Senate Committee on Health Care

RE: HB 4130 Opposition

I am a practicing dermatologist with Bend Dermatology Clinic. I'm writing in opposition to HB 4130, which would prevent my practice from continuing to contract for administrative services support, and could result in my practice shrinking or closing.

Bend Dermatology contracts with a management services organization (MSO) for administrative services support. Since partnering with an MSO in 2018, Bend Dermatology has expanded access to timely and convenient dermatological care across Central Oregon by adding additional medical providers to serve our communities. In 2022, we opened a new dermatology clinic in Prineville and just last week we celebrated the grand opening of a newly constructed dermatology clinic expanding our footprint in Redmond. We also introduced a mobile Mohs skin cancer surgery unit so patients don't have to travel for treatment. These investments, and the recruitment of providers to these rural communities, was made possible by our partnership with an MSO. The support I get from our MSO partner is part of what enables me to stay in independent practice.

Like the proponents of this bill, I strongly believe that no MSO should interfere with the clinical judgement of physicians in the practice. That is why our contract complies with the corporate practice of medical doctrine by prohibiting the MSO from exerting any influence over a physician's independent medical judgment. The current CPOM doctrine would make any effort on the part of our MSO to do so void and unenforceable. HB 4130 goes far beyond that to limit a physician's freedom of contract.

HB 4130 would have severe and negative consequences on many independent physician practices around the state. Any physician who enters into an administrative services agreement would face the risk of losing their physician practice through administrative dissolution, while the private equity firms and MSOs this bill supposedly targets would face no legal consequences. This is both unfair to physicians and contrary to the stated intent of the legislation.

There are many ways Oregon could strengthen its efforts to ensure corporate money is not influencing patient care. However, this legislation will just harm independent practices and reduce access to care. Please oppose HB 4130.

Sincerely,
William Delgado, MD

