



February 26, 2024

Chair Patterson & Members of the Senate Healthcare Committee,

Praxis Health is Oregon's largest independent network of primary care providers. We serve the healthcare needs of over 125,000 Oregonians, with 32 local community clinics. Praxis employs over 150 providers across Oregon, serving as a critical employer as well as primary care provider. While not physician owned, the values and operations are local and focused on a fair and sustainable model in many of our under-served and vulnerable communities.

- Praxis Health is owned and operated by a local family with deep rural Oregonian roots with extensive experience in running a successful healthcare organization for >30 years.
- While this bill is "intended" to impact private equity backed entities, this bill will likely decimate a critical rural Oregon based company that employs >600 Oregonian's.
- Praxis Health has been preserving independent practices across Oregon for the last 18 years as physicians have been unable to sustain their practices.
- We have kept balance in the healthcare system, while serving the often-undeserved Medicaid and Medicare patients in our clinics across Oregon. This bill will have immediate and catastrophic consequences, shattering any remaining balance.
- To simply require giving "control" (which would also require giving back the financial risk) to physicians who have already decided they cannot sustainably run a practice nor afford to carry the risk of owning, does not translate to the real world.
- This bill will not give control of medical practices to physicians. The impact of this bill will instead leave many communities, especially rural communities, with no option beyond a single hospital-based provider system.
- For the time being, there is already a reasonable mechanism to deter unhealthy consolidation in Oregon from private equity firms through the current OHA oversight of merger and acquisitions. This authority allows for proper study of impacts, without rushing a broad sweeping policy bill that is being passed before understanding the immediate unintended harm that HB 4130A would have on our communities.

We ask that this bill not be passed during a hasty short session and instead be brought forward when proper time and consideration can be given to such an important state-wide policy.

With Gratitude,
Michael Olson

Michael Olson, DPT, MHA, Praxis Health Regional Administrator