



Dear Chair Nosse, Co-Chairs Diehl, Nelson, and committee members,

My name is Lorren Sandt, Executive Director of the Caring Ambassadors Program. The Caring Ambassadors Program is a national nonprofit advocacy organization based in Oregon City, Oregon. Caring Ambassadors has empowered patients to be advocates for their health since 1997. We provide education, support, and advocacy for people living with chronic diseases, focusing on lung cancer and hepatitis C.

We urge you to oppose the proposed changes to Oregon's hospital financial assistance program thresholds in HB 4040. Protecting families from medical debt is crucial.

Section 38 of HB 4040 introduces unnecessary complexity. Part (8) requires both the Governor and the board to select a chairperson. We oppose this provision because it creates redundancy and confusion regarding leadership selection.

Currently, the Governor appoints Board members, and the Board selects its chair and co-chair, which supports effective governance. We urge you to remove the redundant language in Section 38 from HB 4040 to maintain effective governance.

I was glad to see the suggested amendment section 39(a) to change the language to "may identify at least one insulin product" since the first PDAB vote in the last meeting failed to find any one insulin product unaffordable and had to vote again to identify one.

Thank you for your hard work this session and all you are doing for Oregonians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorren Sandt".

Lorren Sandt, Executive Director