PeaceHealth

April 8, 2013

Re: PeaceHealth Supports HB 5028

I'm Philip Farrington, Director of Land Use Planning & Development for PeaceHealth Oregon West Network, based in Eugene. I'm writing on behalf of PeaceHealth in support of HB 5028 and the Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network ("RAIN") project, which encourages the development of business "accelerators" that help university research-based start-ups realize their commercial potential. One of the locations being considered for development of such accelerator space is at PeaceHealth's Sacred Heart Medical Center-University District campus. Conveniently located only two blocks from the University of Oregon and on a mass transit corridor, our University District campus currently hosts space for a number of UO applied research labs. The collaborative nature of the UO-PeaceHealth relationship enables great utilization of suitable lab space proximate to the University, and complements PeaceHealth's own endeavors to support research and health-related education.

There is an entire floor in the North Building on our University District campus that formerly housed operating suites for an ambulatory surgery center. The size of the space, the building type, and availability of infrastructure in this former institutional space can rather easily be adapted to support the flexible uses that will be housed in the UO's business accelerator. The proximity to the UO, availability of parking and access to all modes of travel for researchers, and easy access to other university offices and administrative support functions (the upper two floors of the North Building are already occupied by the UO), all combine to make this an ideal location for development of high quality space for the kind of enterprises that HB 5028 will support.

PeaceHealth is excited at the prospect of continuing our alliance with the University of Oregon, and supporting the development of applied research to benefit the regional and statewide economy. The long-range plans for and investments in PeaceHealth's University District campus seek to foster greater collaboration with the University of Oregon – in continued opportunities for translational research, leased space for lab functions, and possible development of complementary flex space as considered in the RAIN project. To these ends, I again urge support for HB 5028, and am happy to answer any questions you may have.

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