

House Committee on Health Care

RE: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) **Compliance**

Dear Chairman Greenlick and Members of the Committee:

Chiropractic physicians practicing at the top of their licensure and scope can perform many of the services listed in the “**State of Oregon Essential Health Benefits, Benchmark Plan.**” Health insurers would be discriminating and not in **compliance** of section 2706 of the PPACA if the insurer excluded coverage of a service that was an essential health benefit and was within the scope of a participating chiropractic physician’s license only because the service(s) were provided by a chiropractic physician (Please see the attached Legislative Counsel legal opinion of Nov. 15, 2012).

Chiropractic is a profession not a single service but, inappropriately listed as such in the “State of Oregon Essential Health Benefits Benchmark Plan (PacificSource Preferred CoDeduct small group plan) required by the PPACA. Oregon chiropractic physicians clinical training, scope, and licensure allow them to provide more than interventions related only to musculoskeletal complaints e.g., back and neck pain. Chiropractic physicians who choose to practice at the top of their license currently can and do provide primary care **services** to Oregonians. Those services can include but are not limited to;

**Primary care treatment of illness/injury** utilizing evidence-based non-pharmacological interventions, home health care, inpatient rehabilitation services, lab tests, X-ray services, imaging/diagnostics (MRI, CT), preventive and wellness services, and chronic disease management, smoking cessation programs, diabetes education, allergy testing, screening pap tests, prostate cancer screening, pediatric services.

It was this same **SECTION 2706** which Governor Kitzhaber inserted into his Senate Bill 1580 (Section 8) last session which became Section 4 of SB-1509, and is now current Oregon law so the same non-discrimination provisions now apply to “coordinated care organizations” (CCOs) as per the delivery of primary care services by chiropractic physicians.

Respectfully submitted,

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