

Aumann Building 444 NW Elks Dr. Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 754-1150

www.corvallisclinic.com

Honourable Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson Chair, Senate Committee on Health Care Distinguished Committee Members 900 Court St. NE, S-413 Salem, Oregon 97301

March 27, 2015

RE: Senate Bill (SB) 558 sponsored by Senator Sara Gelser

Dear Senator Anderson and Health Care Committee Members,

The purpose of SB 558 is to provide separate recognition and reimbursement for pharmacists working in an Integrated Health Care Delivery System (IHCDS). When working under a chronic disease Collaborative Drug Therapy Management agreement (CDTM; described in OAR 855-019-0260 and OAR 847-015-0040), a pharmacist consultation encounter should be eligible for reimbursement by a Health Benefit Plan at a negotiated fee between "incident to" and up to 85% of 99212 billing. Without reimbursement, IHCDS organizations can't afford to integrate the pharmacist into the Community Health Team as described in Section 3502 of the Affordable Care Act. Medications, and misuse of medications, are a root cause of high health care costs associated with those who have chronic diseases. Without the medication expert (the pharmacist) on the team, the highest levels of health care cost performance and patient improvement will not be reached.

The Corvallis Clinic is enhancing patient-centered medical home models of healthcare delivery. Growth in primary care providers, electronic health records, and the expansion of patient care coordination are a few examples of the investments that The Corvallis Clinic is committed to currently and in the future.

The ability to expand the role of the pharmacist, and to be paid for the services provided, are key to expanding the health care team needed to manage the health of our patient population.

Sincerely,

Jennis Regan, M.D. Medical Director The Corvallis Clinic, P.C.

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Douglas Bourdo, M.P.H. Chief Financial Officer The Corvallis Clinic, P.C.

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Terry Crowder, RPh, MBA, PhD Pharmacy Manager The Corvallis Clinic, P.C.

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