

February 7, 2018

The Honorable Mitch Greenlick Chair, House Health Care Committee State Capitol Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: House Joint Resolution 203 – HOPE amendment

Dear Representative Greenlick and members of the committee:

For Providence Health & Services, our advocacy on health care policy is, first and foremost, an expression of our commitment to the common good. As a mission-driven organization, we are called to serve our communities both at the bedside and through efforts to remove causes of oppression.

As a state and a nation we have made great strides over the past decade to ensure access to health care for all, especially the poor and vulnerable – but there is no question that we have more work to do. By including an aspirational statement in the Oregon Constitution that states, "It is the obligation of the state to ensure that every resident of Oregon has access to effective, medically appropriate and affordable health care as a fundamental right." It is Providence's hope that we will continue working until every Oregonian has health care coverage.

Finally, thank you to Representative Mitch Greenlick for being an incredible, forward thinking leader and continuing to challenge us to do better. Providence is grateful for his efforts and proud to lend our support to HJR 203.

Sincerely,

Dave Underriner Chief Executive, Oregon Region