

February 14, 2019

Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee,

HB 2847 would expand the number of hospitals that qualify for the Rural Provider Tax Credit to include those that are currently listed as Rural Referral Centers (RRC) and Sole Community Hospitals. RRC hospitals are classified by CMS as high-volume acute care rural hospitals that treat a large number of complicated cases. According to the Oregon Hospital Payment Report: 2016, the following hospitals in Oregon are considered Rural Referral Centers:

- Bay Area Hospital (Coos Bay)
- Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (Corvallis)
- Mercy Medical Center (Roseburg)
- Mid-Columbia Medical Center (The Dalles)
- Saint Alphonsus Medical Center (Ontario)
- Sky Lakes Medical Center (Klamath Falls)
- St. Charles Bend
- St. Charles Redmond

A “sole community hospital” is designated by CMS if it is if it is located more than 35 miles from other like hospitals and meets some specific criteria around the % of their patients that are admitted to other hospitals or have to seek specialized care elsewhere. In Oregon, these hospitals include:

- Asante Ashland Community Hospital (Ashland)
- Bay Area Hospital (Coos Bay)
- Mercy Medical Center (Roseburg)
- Mid-Columbia Medical Center (The Dalles)
- Providence Newberg Medical Center (Newberg)
- Sky Lakes Medical Center (Klamath Falls)
- Saint Alphonsus Medical Center (Ontario)
- St. Charles Redmond

If HB 2847 becomes law, it will allow providers at hospitals that are currently designated as RRC and Sole Community hospitals and are not in a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or in a county with a population of more than 75,000 people and meet the other requirements of the program to collect the tax credit.

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