

**March 21, 2019**

**CareOregon Testimony in Support of SB 1 and SB 221**

Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jill Archer, Vice President of Behavioral Health at CareOregon, and I testify today in support of SB 1 and SB 221.

CareOregon, a nonprofit that this year celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary serving the OHP, is a founding member of Health Share of Oregon, the Coordinated Care Organization that contracts to manage Medicaid benefits in the Portland Metro area. CareOregon manages physical health benefits for 200,000 of Health Share's 300,000 members, and dental health benefits for 70,000. Additionally, CareOregon manages OHP benefits for 30,000 members in Jackson County through ownership of Jackson Care Connect, and 25,000 members in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties through ownership of Columbia Pacific CCO.

As the Vice President of Behavioral Health at CareOregon, I am responsible for managing our fully integrated benefit with Jackson Care Connect, and working closely with our partners in the Columbia Pacific and Metro regions to ensure a high functioning system of care for our members. I have worked in the area of children's mental health in Oregon since 2001 and was able to implement one of the first Wraparound and System of Care pilots in the state in 2010 in Washington County, which is still demonstrating success today.

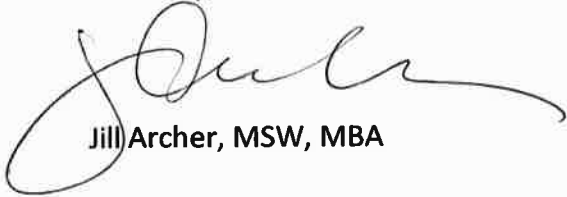
I was fortunate to have the opportunity to participate on the Governor's Task Force for Children with Special Healthcare Needs, which delivered the set of recommendations leading to this legislation. Coordinated Care Organizations have seen the impact in our own communities of the fragmentation across child serving systems, and submitted a request to the Governor in 2018 requesting the formation of a children's cabinet to begin to address these issues. This was one of the catalysts for the convening of the task force. As CCOs, we are tirelessly moving toward an integrated system of care, and this legislation supports us in those efforts by funding services and supports across systems and allows the flexibility to move funding outside of the existing siloes.

One of the most exciting pieces of this legislation, that has been sorely missing, is the development of the state level accountability structure. A system of care cannot function without accountability and collaboration of all child serving systems, at all levels. The creation of the state level Advisory Council, with the authority it is given, is crucial to resolving barriers and gaps in our system of care, and providing a forum for decision makers

across systems to blend funding, create innovative solutions and support local communities to improve care.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony, and please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Archer", written in a cursive style.

Jill Archer, MSW, MBA

Vice President, Behavioral Health

CareOregon