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From the Lesk of Paqued More-Snew, Rep HD19

June 18, 2021

Dear Legislator,

We write to you urgently – doctors, surgeons, clinicians, pharmacists, insurers, community health care organizations – to ask you to oppose HB 2362. Our organizations have been concerned about the obvious shortcomings of HB 2362 since the bill was introduced. Nonetheless we have engaged with policymakers and stakeholders in an attempt to mitigate the most devastating impacts of this far-reaching bill.

We listened patiently as proponents suggested the bill simply covers mergers and acquisitions. It does not. We worked to understand claims that the bill is based on the Massachusetts model. It is not. We heard that the bill is needed now to prevent future mergers or acquisitions that would increase costs and reduce services, as they have done in other states. This is not the case in Oregon.

While discussions have resulted in some changes to add clarity to certain sections, the impacts are still not understood, key terms remain undefined and confusion around implementation remains. Quite simply, we do not know the impacts of the bill on the delivery of care or quantify the costs this will add to the health care system.

HB 2362 this bill is not ready and needs further vetting as the unintended consequences could have significant negative impacts on our health care system.

We urge your NO Vote on HB 2362.

We appreciate your efforts to improve this bill and stand by to help in any way we can.

Sincerely,



