

March 16, 2021

Senate Committee on Health Care
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Senate Bill 741 – Support

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Knopp and members of the Senate Committee on Health Care:

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Oregon Health Council (COHC) and Vice President of Clinical Services for Advantage Dental, I am submitting written testimony in support of Senate Bill 741. This legislation will allow the COHC to continue its innovative and transformative work to improve the health of Oregonians in Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties.

Since it was established almost a decade ago, the COHC has proven to be a highly successful model for Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) governance, regional collaboration and integration of physical health, behavioral health and oral health. Integrated care and broad community involvement was the vision of CCO legislation and it has been fully embraced and implemented by the COHC. Examples demonstrating contributions the COHC has made to improved access, quality and health care cost efficiencies are too numerous to list but are well understood and fully enjoyed by members of Central Oregon's communities. As another measure of its success, the innovative governance model pioneered by the COHC was replicated in Marion/Polk and Lane counties in 2020 and was endorsed by the Oregon Health Authority when it awarded CCO contracts to PacificSource for those counties.

I respectfully request your support for SB 741 to enable the COHC to continue its stewardship and investments in improving the health of Central Oregonians.

Sincerely,



Gary W. Allen, DMD, MS
Vice President, Clinical Services
Advantage Dental
President, Advantage Dental Group, PC