



5.11.2021

Written transcript of verbal testimony:

Dear Chair Prusak, Vice Chairs Hayden and Salinas and members of the House Committee on Health Care:

My name is Donna Mills and I currently serve as the Executive Director of the Central Oregon Health Council. I am in strong support of SB 741 for the following reasons.

The Central Oregon Health Council is a hub of healthcare transformation in Oregon. We have superseded the stereotype of a standard health system into the grander, all-inclusive health ecosystem which includes partners from other areas known to impact health such as education, transportation, and government. This has taken us beyond the old models of consideration when those at the table included the payer, the provider, and sometimes the patient - our system creates involvement of all those parties as well as the community at large.

The Central Oregon Health Council has a proven track record which is evidenced by the trust our community has shown in us to steward 1% of our Medicaid budget. Our model has become woven into the new Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) contracts, known as CCO 2.0. Our preventative approach allows dollars to be invested into community projects which impact health and allows our community members to decide where to invest those dollars. We have over 250 volunteers who participate in the process of oversight, decision-making and investing on a monthly basis, and our process is inclusive and makes room for every voice.

The Central Oregon Health Council is an independent nonprofit, beholden only to the community we serve. Our neutrality and responsibility make way for tough conversations between partners and competitors and expands the discussion to unlikely partners through broad collaboration.

The Central Oregon Health Council has diverse representation on our Board. Risk-sharing health care partners serve beside health eco-system partners and community members without affiliation to organizations or agendas.

After eight formative years of operation, the Central Oregon Health Council is just getting warmed up. Our model was replicated in Marion/Polk and Lane counties in 2020 when PacificSource was awarded CCO contracts over those regions. We are a recognized and trusted entity within the region, state, and nationally. For these reasons and many more I strongly support SB741 and ask for your support as well.

Thank you,
Donna Mills
Executive Director