

Providence Health & Services
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February 24, 2021

The Honorable Deb Patterson
Chair, Senate Health Care Committee
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Senate Joint Resolution 12 – HOPE amendment

Dear Senator Patterson and members of the committee:

Providence Health & Services believes health is a human right and envisions a health delivery system that is available, affordable and accessible to everyone, especially those who are poor and vulnerable. Our support for SJR 12 is an expression of this commitment to the common good, both at the bedside and through efforts to remove causes of oppression.

As a state and a nation, we have made great strides over the past decade to ensure access to health care for all, but there remain opportunities to build upon our success by continuing to broaden access in sustainable ways. Including an aspirational statement in the Oregon Constitution that states, “It is the obligation of the state to ensure that every resident of Oregon has access to cost-effective, clinically appropriate and affordable health care as a fundamental right” will ensure Oregon continues to promote opportunities to advance health for a better world. Providence looks forward to working with policymakers to see this vision through, until every Oregonian has health care coverage.

Providence has supported this Resolution for many years, and we have great respect for the forward-thinking leadership of Representative Mitch Greenlick, who continues to challenge us to do better even after his passing. Providence is grateful for his service to Oregon and proud to lend our support to SJR 12.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Vance". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Lisa Vance
Chief Executive, Oregon Region
Providence Health & Services