

February 17, 2022

Senate Human Services, Mental Health & Recovery Committee

RE: Support of HB 4150

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice Chair Robinson and Members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Dr. Manu Chaudhry. I am the President and Dental Director for Capitol Dental Care (CDC). We are a Dental Care Organization (DCO) that provides care to Oregon Health Plan (OHP) beneficiaries, through contracts with Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO) across the state. I also serve as a member of the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC).

Capitol Dental Care is writing in support of HB 4150, which requires the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) to convene stakeholders to study and report options for development and use of community information exchanges (CIE).

As a DCO, we have strongly supported the concept of care coordination between oral health, physical and behavioral health. CDC has implemented many coordination and outreach efforts to ensure that our Medicaid beneficiaries receive the best overall health care, and we continue to strive to provide the best care coordination possible. However, coordinated health care services have frequently noted continued challenges ensuring realization of better health and a better overall quality of life for Medicaid members. Connecting them to appropriate social services and resources is critical to provide a complete coordination of services to address their needs.

We fully support the goal of HB 4150 to explore options and to develop a thoughtful, comprehensive plan for the development and use of community information exchanges. As dental providers, community information exchanges will be an important tool in our efforts as a health care provider to link Medicaid beneficiaries to social services and resources that are critical to their ability to enjoy good health and quality of life.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 4150. Capitol Dental Care appreciates your support of the bill.