



March 13, 2023

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden and members of the Committee,

The Oregon Dental Association (ODA) represents 2100 dentists across the state. We write today with concerns about SB 967, particularly the removal of the below language in Section 1 and 28:

Section 1 (Page 4, Line 3):

- (A) At least one member representing persons that share in the financial risk of the organization;
- [(B) A representative of a dental care organization selected by the coordinated care organization;]*
- [(C)]* (B) The major components of the health care delivery system;
- [(D)]* (C) At least two health care providers in active practice, including: (i) A physician licensed under ORS chapter 677 or a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375, whose area of practice is primary care; and (ii) A behavioral health provider;

Section 28:

- (2) The Oregon Health Authority, in consultation with coordinated care organizations *[and dental care organizations]* in this state, shall adopt rules and procedures for the training and certification of health workers to provide oral disease prevention services and for the reimbursement of oral disease prevention services provided by certified health workers

Section 1 deletes the requirement that CCO governing board include a dental care organization on their board, and Section 28 removes dental care organizations from being consulted by the Oregon Health Authority about health workers providing oral disease prevention services— and importantly, reimbursement for those services.

ODA believes that consultation with dental care providers is critical to ensure that coverage and adequate reimbursement for dental care is prioritized for Oregon's most vulnerable populations. Similar requirements for CCO board representation for other areas of health- like behavioral health—are called out in statute, and we believe oral health should be similarly valued. Removing a dental representative from these boards sends the wrong signal about the way this state values oral health.

Sincerely,

Mark Miller, DMD, MAGD

President, Oregon Dental Association