

Feb. 6, 2024

Chair Nosse and members of the committee,

Please support HB 4130 on the Corporate Practice of Medicine to help safeguard patient interests and physician independence.

When I was first diagnosed with breast cancer, I found myself in the deep end of the pool of the cancer-medical-insurance complex. At 60 years old, I had been super healthy, on zero meds, and hadn't needed the services of any doctors.

I live in Corbett, Oregon so my closest medical center is Legacy Mt. Hood in Gresham. Thank goodness for the partnership between the Legacy Breast Cancer Care team and the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, I had/have doctors from both institutions and other than one special x-ray, was able to have every single treatment, visit, surgery, chemo, radiation, etc. at Legacy Mt. Hood. My surgeon and radiation oncologist are with Legacy, while my medical oncologist is with OHSU, and all are located at the Legacy Mt. Hood campus. They all work together quite flawlessly, and I have benefitted greatly. I am so grateful that I have a relationship with these doctors; I trust them and feel they truly care about my healing and comfort.

I have also directly experienced how the insurance industry can be a giant barricade, inserting itself between *my* doctor and *my* treatment, even though their number-crunchers know nothing about me or my situation. We've had to wait on some treatments, argue for some medications, and my doctor has had to waste her precious time writing appeals.

It's 2024 for goodness sakes, and we are a first world country. Dealing with any kind of medical situation is already stressful enough, and dealing with insurance is a royal pain. At a minimum, **we need and deserve a medical system that is simply based on a relationship between skilled doctors and their patients** - not faceless, profit-driven corporations. I urge you to support HB 4130, to ensure practicing physicians always have control of patient care.

Thank you,



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