

Submitter: Charlotte Maloney

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB4130

I'm a 74 year old retired occupational therapist. In my 38+ years in the medical world, I worked in home care, outpatient, inpatient, and work program settings. I witnessed decline in quality of care and outcomes, due to delay and denial of authorizations for treatment. I have seen in my community the loss of 1/3 of the Oregon Medical Group MDs, since Optum (a part of the national corporation UnitedHealth) bought the practice. The profit motive of insurance companies purchasing and managing practices results in provider burn-out, short rushed appointments, and lower quality care.

Trained physicians need to be making the decisions, rather than bureaucrats, whose incentive is profit- not the quality of care, not the health and well-being of individual patients. The language of this bill is confusing to me. I ask you to do all you can pass a form of this bill that protects patients by requiring physicians being in charge of care decisions.

Thank you for doing the people's work, even when "the people" may not completely understand all the moving parts.