

From the desk of Representative Ben Bowman



05/28/25

From the Desk of Brian Duty, MD, President-Elect, Oregon Medical Association:

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 951 — a crucial bill to protect the integrity of medical practice in Oregon by ensuring that physicians, not corporations, retain authority over clinical decision-making.

As a past President of the Oregon Urological Society and President-Elect of the Oregon Medical Association, I've had the opportunity to meet with physicians and healthcare leaders across the state. These conversations paint a clear and concerning picture: independent medical practice is under serious strain. SB 951 addresses one of the root causes — the growing intrusion of non-medical corporate entities into patient care.

Oregon's longstanding corporate practice of medicine doctrine exists for a reason: to keep patient care in the hands of those trained, licensed, and ethically obligated to prioritize it. But that principle is eroding. Increasingly, vertically integrated insurance companies and private equity firms are influencing treatment decisions based on profitability — not what's best for the patient.

SB 951 doesn't ban private investment in healthcare or the use of management service organizations (MSOs). It simply sets clear boundaries: clinical decisions must be made by clinicians. MSOs may provide administrative support — but they must not interfere with the quality or delivery of medical care.

This bill reinforces a foundational truth: physician-led care results in better outcomes, better access, and greater trust between patients and clinicians. I urge you to support SB 951. It is a meaningful, measured response to a growing problem — and a first of many more steps needed to preserve independent medical practice and patient-centered care in Oregon.

Sincerely,



Brian Duty, MD, MBA Professor of Urologic Surgery