



March 3rd, 2025

The Honorable Deb Patterson
Chair, Senate Health Care Committee
900 Court St NE, S-411
Salem OR, 97301

The Honorable Cedric Hayden
Vice Chair, Senate Health Care Committee
900 Court St NE, S-315
Salem OR 97301

Re: **SB 951** Stops people in charge of companies that do not do medical work from running both the company and another entity that does medical work

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, Senator Campos, Senator Linthicum, and Senator Reynolds,

The Oregon chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) advocates a universal healthcare plan that provides better care to more people for less money. Our policy usually focuses on insurance, provider payment, cost-sharing, benefits, and administrative costs. However, SB 951 addresses an aspect of healthcare carrying equal importance.

All directors and officers of private equity companies seek the highest possible financial reward for investors. This is antithetical to the physician-patient relationship. Investors' financial interests are not patients' medical interests.

When private equity companies employ physicians, those physicians must balance two conflicting demands: (1) the financial obligation to minimize time and resources expended on each patient, and (2) the professional, traditional, and moral obligation to act in each patient's medical interest.

This conflict is bad for patients, bad for physicians, and bad for the communities in which patients and physicians live.

SB 951 seeks to move physician obligations from investor financial interest to patient medical interest. When patients' medical interests are met, costs go down and Oregon communities prosper.

Oregon PNHP supports SB 951. We urge the Senate Health Care Committee to do the same.

Respectfully,

Samuel Metz, MD
Vice President
Oregon Physicians for a National Health Program