

Submitter: William Dalton
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB951

Dear Senate Committee on Health Care.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB951.

As a Ph.D. Psychologist, I have been a provider and administrator of community mental health and public health services for over 30 years, with a focus in rural areas. I have directly seen the impact of health-related services on both individual and communities.

And I have seen and lived the difference that ownership-management-control can make in the quality of the services delivered.

In addition to my professional experience, I have strong personal perspectives on the management and delivery of healthcare:

Over the seven+ decades of my life, I count among my blessings the healthcare I have received.

From my time as a young, independent college student right up through the challenges of aging, I attribute my excellent health to the PROFESSIONALS responsible for my healthcare.

Whether through hospital E.R. doctors, medical professionals working with non-profit agencies, individual-practice physicians, or major healthcare systems like Salem Health --

I have received accessible, effective, caring services - managed and delivered by and through trained healthcare providers.

They have not only enabled me to be a productive member of society, but they have saved our private and public healthcare and insurance systems literally hundreds of thousands

of dollars -- through both excellent prevention and timely intervention.

As You consider SB951, I would ask You to consider the likelihood of my being able to share that kind of experience and outcome if over all these decades my major providers

had been driven largely by profit -- or had been controlled/managed by a system that owed its allegiance First to its stockholders.

Like many other essential services across the country, Healthcare is under tremendous pressures toward privatization = through consolidations, organization under multi-level complex management systems, even private equity firms... .

Oregon is fortunate to have formally embraced healthcare as a Human Right.

We recognize that good healthcare requires freedom of provider choice, meaningful

accessibility, professionalism, effectiveness - along with APPROPRIATE efficiencies. With the kind of protections offered by SB951, Oregon will keep our healthcare services under the control of those most trained and caring regarding All those requirements.

Sincerely,

William B. Dalton, Ph.D.
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