



WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

March 4, 2025

Chair Nosse and Vice-chairs Javadi and Nelson
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
900 Court St. NE – HR C
Salem, Oregon 97301

Good afternoon, Chair Nosse, Vice-chairs Javadi and Nelson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Marie Boman-Davis (she/her/hers), and I am the Public Health Division Manager and appointed Local Public Health Administrator for Washington County Oregon. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2224 which is intended to increase coordinated care organizations' (CCOs) collaboration and alignment across the healthcare system statewide.

Oregon has a cross-sector healthcare system that includes medical services, community organizations and public health. Each system partner holds unique roles and responsibilities to improve health outcomes. CCOs are an integral part of medical service delivery and the health of our communities.

If passed, HB 2224 would make several changes:

- It would specify that, among individuals already on the Health Plan Quality Metrics Committee, that one person has expertise in public health or population health data.
- It would also specify that the Medicaid Advisory Committee include professionals with experience in public health, behavioral health, and health related social service needs
- In addition, it also adds at least one senior local health department official to the CCO governing body WHEN POSSIBLE
 - There is also a provision around county commissioners as well, which I will let the Association of Oregon Counties speak to.
- It also specifies that, the CCO Community Advisory Council should include representatives from local public health and community mental health WHEN POSSIBLE.
- It adds clarification that CCOs should try to align and coordinate with local public health on their community health needs assessments and community health improvement plans to ensure they efficiently work together on shared local priorities.
- Finally, the bill includes some permissive language that allows local public health authorities statewide to receive payment from CCOs when appropriate.

The key themes here are alignment and efficiency. The purpose of the changes proposed in HB 2224 are to ensure the different parts of our cross-sector healthcare system work together towards the shared goals of improved service, better health outcomes, and advancement of health equity. These small fixes can advance advisory and governing bodies towards connection and communication, ensure additional perspectives are represented, uplift local community priorities, and foster innovation in how the system can collaboratively provide services.

I encourage the committee to support HB 2224 to ensure Oregonian's have coordinated, efficient health services across the system.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important topic.

Sincerely,

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