Submitter:	Christopher Di Dato
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB2029

Dear Representatives of the Oregon Tax Payers,

I strongly advocate for the passage of HB2029.

The current law poses a significant risk for small practice owners who accept Medicaid, let alone commercial insurance. The three-year clawback period on bills is unreasonable and places an unfair burden on providers for the accounting errors of large corporations.

It's unjust for providers to be held financially responsible for overpayments that can take years for these corporations to reconcile. This creates a non-competitive landscape for healthcare, as only large healthcare corporations can absorb the losses and fight such clawbacks.

At a minimum, any small business with less than 50 providers should be exempt from clawbacks. Large corporations have the resources to fight this in court or cancel contracts with carriers, while small businesses may be forced into bankruptcy or a cash-based model, cutting out a significant portion of Oregon's insured patients.

Imagine a provider who leaves a job and then, years later, receives a bill from their former employer for overpaid claims. This scenario is all too likely for 1099/LLC or Corp to Corp workers and can even affect W2 employees depending on their contract. Many providers work on a split-based model where as much as 50% of the insurance claims are paid directly to the provider. If that is clawed back, the practice may claw it back from the provider.

As for Medicaid and OHP, they already make it unreasonable to do business with them, forcing more and more practices to simply stop taking their insurance. They are already removing telehealth access for mental health patients, which will likely lead to more crime and police utilization. We should spend our tax dollars on prevention, not incarceration - prevention keeps taxpayers working, while the other imposes a tax burden on society.

We must protect providers from these predatory practices by large corporations.

Supporting HB2029 will safeguard small businesses and increase access to care for patients.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Chris

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