

Caring Ambassadors Program Lorren Sandt, Executive Director P.O. Box 1748 Oregon City, OR 97045

## Written Testimony House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care March 20, 2025

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Javadi, Vice Chair Nelson, and committee members,

My name is Lorren Sandt, Executive Director of the Caring Ambassadors Program. The Caring Ambassadors Program is a national nonprofit advocacy organization based in Oregon City, Oregon. Caring Ambassadors has empowered patients to be advocates for their health since 1997. We provide education, support, and advocacy for people living with chronic diseases, focusing on lung cancer and hepatitis C. We support and encourage you to pass HB 3421.

Comprehensive biomarker testing ensures lung cancer patients are matched with the proper treatment at the right time, ultimately leading to more successful outcomes and less healthcare utilization. This can mean significant cost savings for our healthcare system, potentially saving hundreds of thousands of dollars for each patient. For a lung cancer patient, this can be the difference between life and death.

This committee has spent a lot of time focusing on the high cost of prescription drugs. Biomarker testing can help contain those costs for the patient and the state. Your decision to vote Yes on HB 3421 could have a significant impact on the lives of many Oregonians.

Once again, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your time and consideration of this critical matter. Your role in improving healthcare for all Oregonians is crucial, and your dedication to this cause is genuinely commendable.

Sincerely,

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