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March 26, 2025

Labor and Workplace Standards Committee

The Honorable Dacia Grayber and members of the Committee

RE: Opposition to House Bill 3374

Dear Committee Members:

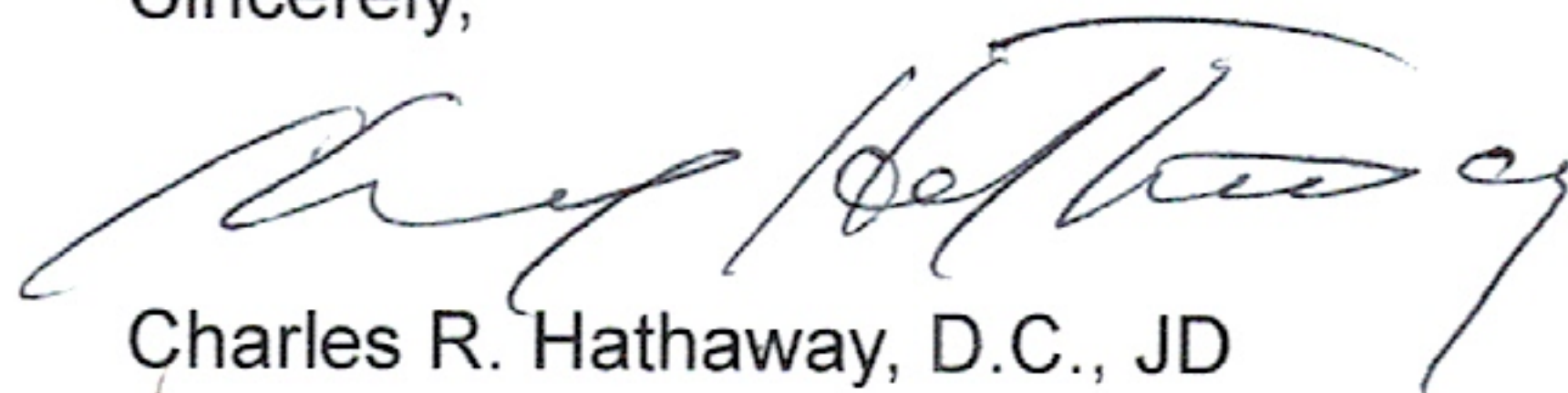
I am formally requesting that you reject SAIF Corporation's attempt to start their own "Managed Care Organization (MCO)." Should this be allowed, it would obstruct the ability of an injured worker to receive care in a timely manner and significantly restrict the choice of available providers. Currently, MCO's in Oregon operate as "closed panels." This means that only a very limited number of healthcare providers are allowed on their panel as healthcare providers. This in itself is restricting to the worker but allowing SAIF's proposal will compound the problem. If you have been in an urgent care recently, and waited to four hours to get care, allowing this proposal will be analogous.

Historically, Oregon's MCOs provided open panel's, "any willing and qualified healthcare provider" who agreed to follow the MCO rules and state law were allowed on the panel. This not only provided appropriate care but also an essential access to quality care. It is my understanding that SAIF Corporation was instrumental in changing this system.

Granted that SAIF has an important role in administrating the care of our injured workers, however, in my opinion this proposal is overreaching and self-serving.

In this context, I ask that you vote no on this proposal. I would like to thank you in advance for your consideration and support for Oregon's injured workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles R. Hathaway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Charles R. Hathaway, D.C., JD

Portland, Oregon