

Submitter: Jim Bunn  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3923

Mr Chair and Members of the Committee.  
For the record, I'm Jim Bunn from Amity.

This bill gives dental clinics with over 500 patients the same rights as medical clinics currently have and changes "may" to "Shall" for the process of transferring from one CCO or DCO to another.

Second, it prohibits GAG orders from interfering with a provider's ability to communicate with their patients.

This bill is intended to protect the rights of OHA providers and patients.  
The bill is short and simple and gives providers a chance when they negotiate with the large DCO/CCO.

It says "The members' provider shall be permitted to communicate directly with the members to inform the members about the members' options for continuing under the care of the provider"

Why do we need this language?

Because recently one of the largest DCO/CCOs in Oregon was hiding behind a GAG CLAUSE to deny patients the information they were entitled to. I believe that they did not properly interpreting the laws and rules but nevertheless since November 20, 2023 they have been blocking a provider's effort to inform patients of their right to choose their provider.

I will read you two sentences of a letter blocking this provider's effort to communicate. I'm going to take the liberty of changing the name of the provider to "WE" and to "Us"

"We take(s) this opportunity to remind you that numerous sections of your agreement continue to survive following this termination. Surviving provisions include without limitation, a prohibition on you, contacting Oregon Health Plan OHP members to attempt to influence their enrollment with us."

The intent of this bill is to forbid any DCO/CCO from blocking a members' provider from informing them of their rights for continuity of care.

About 3/4 of all OHP

patients are currently under only two companies. One of those companies is controlled by a Florida company and the other is controlled by a Canadian company.

A number of dentists would prefer to deal directly with an Oregon DCO or at least have that option.

This bill is needed TODAY to address real issues that have been interfering with a provider's ability to best serve their patients.