

April 21, 2025

The Honorable Rob Nosse 90 Court St. NE, H-277 Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Support for HB 3409-2: Relating to prescription drugs; prescribing an effective date.

Dear Representative Nosse,

On behalf of OCHIN, I appreciate the opportunity to offer strong support for <u>HB 3409-2</u>. OCHIN is a national nonprofit health information technology innovation and research network that is locally controlled by community-based providers including 46 Oregon organizations serving 630,000 patients. This bill will protect the 340B program, ensuring essential community health services are available to patients in rural and underinvested areas that need them most.

Today, the OCHIN network includes federally qualified health centers (FQHC), FQHC look-alikes, rural health clinics, local public health agencies, corrections, school-based clinics, tribal health organizations, youth authorities, and rural hospitals. For twenty-five years, the OCHIN collaborative has focused on expanding access in underinvested and rural communities to quality health care services through technology solutions, technical assistance, operational support, informatics, evidence-based research, and workforce development and training.

Many health centers would be unable to provide discounted medication or care that many people rely on without the funding provided by 340B. Unfortunately, health insurers and pharmacy benefit managers are unilaterally implementing additional onerous reporting requirements, which are used to claw back funding from health care providers. This erodes the vitality of the 340B program which is essential for patients that the program was designed to help.

For all these reasons, OCHIN supports this bill, and we thank you for your leadership. Please contact me, <u>stollj@ochin.org</u>, if you have questions.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer Stoll Chief External Affairs Officer