

Submitter: LeAnn Mobley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB951

I retired from a 40-year career in healthcare. My work experienced ranged from a 300-bed medical center to administering a small practice with 17 clinicians. I wholeheartedly endorse SB951 to prevent business entities (eg. debt equity) from ownership of medical practices. Having read, "Plunder: private equities plan to pillage America", I am convinced more than ever.

Physicians may not be the best at managing their practices, but they can hire people who are good at the bottom line, and continue maintaining decision making over how quality medical services are provided. In the 90's, the hospital I was working at (I supervised 100 employees) underwent a productivity study. Drastic changes in policies and protocols resulted, with severe unintended consequences. Patients were harmed and money was NOT saved in many instances. After one of my staff made a thinking error that resulted in a patient's catheter being ripped out, I asked him what happened. He was a great tech, very conscientious, this was so unlike him. His response, "you are putting so much pressure on us to do more with less." The same study resulted in a major change in who was to draw blood cultures. Policy moved from trained lab personnel to someone on the floor drawing them because it reduced costs, and of course, someone in admin made the change because "anyone can draw a blood sample." Our false positive rate went way up; each resulting in 1000s of dollars and days of work to resolve.

There are many existing stories about compromises in healthcare and how patients are harmed. One of the other consequences of these ill-advised shifts in ownership is the impact on trained medical personnel. The people who trained at the right level, with the right skill set, to provide quality medical care. Good people will not stay and be compromised themselves. I was one of them, I left the hospital.

I strongly urge you to support SB951 and keep corporations' hands off medical care. Oregon deserves to have patient-centered care, period.

LeAnn Mobley, MBA