

Submitter: Amanda La Bonte
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB951

Dear legislators -

I want to share my very strong support for SB 951. This bill will make a major impact on the corporatization of healthcare which has increased dramatically in recent years and has led to much worse patient outcomes. As a dedicated healthcare worker in my role as an occupational therapist, I personally have seen a dramatic change in recent years within the healthcare system. I cannot name how many patients that in my professional opinion were unsafe to discharge to their home from the hospital or skilled nursing (I've worked in both settings) that were forced to return home too soon. Predictably, these patients struggle and many return to the hospital soon after. On a more personal level I have seen a huge issue for my own family members. I have several family members with chronic health conditions and they need to have a consistent provider. Once Optum took over the Corvallis Clinic there was a mass change in availability in providers within the Corvallis Clinic but also as a trickle down impact within Samaritan as well. We have long had issues with needing more providers but this is different than I have ever seen. My family members cannot access timely and adequate care. It has had a devastating impact to their well-being and should never be allowed to happen. Optum taking over the Corvallis Clinic has done nothing to make the community healthier and everything to do with worsening our healthcare system. This is a dire situation and SB 951 will help to change it. Please help support this measure. It is so important.

Thank you for your consideration,
Amanda La Bonte, OTD, OTR/L, BCG, ECHM, CEAS