



Written Testimony of the Caring Ambassadors Program
Lorren Sandt, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1748
Oregon City, OR 97045

February 12, 2026

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden and committee members,

The Caring Ambassadors Program is a national nonprofit advocacy organization based in Oregon City, Oregon. Since 1997, we have empowered patients to advocate for their health. Please consider the following testimony as you discuss and vote on SB 1528-2.

We have several concerns about the information requested from manufacturers in SB 1528-2. First, how will privacy be protected? In many rural areas, limited population size could make it possible to identify individuals. Patients may be discouraged from applying if they know this information is reported to the state and fear disclosure.

Second, who will review this proprietary and confidential data, and who has the expertise to analyze these complex data points to determine their impact on drug pricing in Oregon?

Third, how will this information affect drug prices for Oregonians? Will it improve affordability, or could it limit access if manufacturers do not comply?

Caring Ambassadors is proud to participate in the EACH/PIC Coalition, which seeks to understand patients' experiences with health care and affordability. As stated in the recent report: "Our Patient Experience Survey"¹ was designed to capture that missing context. Unlike simplified yes/no affordability surveys, this tool combines quantitative data with open-ended patient narratives, allowing respondents to explain how insurance design, cumulative health costs, and life circumstances affect their ability to access care."

Delayed or denied financial assistance creates affordability challenges. Patients report that insurance rules often prevent them from applying for help with drug costs, making medications unaffordable. In contrast, 71% said financial assistance made medication affordable. To reduce patient hardship, reforms must address insurance-driven instability, including changing coverage decisions, variable cost-sharing, and restrictions on financial assistance, which shift costs and disrupt access to treatment.

The work you do is not easy, and we appreciate your dedication to reducing drug costs for Oregonians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorren Sandt".

Lorren Sandt

1. https://eachpic.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/PIC-Project-V2_02.02.2026.pdf