



February 10, 2026

Senator Deb Patterson, Chair
Senator Cedric Hayden, Vice-Chair
Oregon Legislative Assembly
Senate Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97309

Delivered via OLIS.

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1528-2, Relating to Patient Assistance Program Reporting

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and Members of the Committee:

The PacificSource companies are independent, not-for-profit health insurance providers based in Oregon. We serve over 500,000 commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare Advantage members in three states. PacificSource Community Solutions is the contracted coordinated care organization (CCO) in Central Oregon, the Columbia River Gorge, and Marion & Polk Counties. Our mission is to provide better health, better care, and better value to the people and communities we serve.

We write to express our support for the -2 amendment to Senate Bill 1528, a proposal stemming from work conducted by the Department of Consumer and Business Services' Drug Price Transparency Program ("program"). This amendment implements a recommendation that the program put forward under its legislative charge to recommend improvements to Oregon law. In the 2025 transparency report, the program recommended that the Assembly enact a requirement that all "reporting manufacturers to report annually on all patient assistance programs they maintain or fund with participants in Oregon."¹ The program reasoned that:

Collecting comprehensive patient assistance program information would greatly improve transparency for consumers and legislators. For example, most enrollment and financial benefit information is not publicly available. Additionally, collecting more complete data would allow for robust analysis, providing evidence to inform future policy decisions particularly regarding the relationship between patient assistance programs, prescribing patterns, drug costs to individual consumers, and insurance premiums.²

¹ <https://dfr.oregon.gov/drugtransparency/Documents/20251204-dpt-hearing/Prescription-Drug-Price-Transparency-Annual-Report-2025.pdf>

² *Id.*, at 63.

Since 2023, PacificSource has consistently advocated for transparency in patient assistance programs, in the context of copay accumulator legislation. As we noted before this committee in 2023, manufacturers' requirements in developing patient assistance programs remain unclear.

According to the findings made by the US House of Representatives' Oversight Committee in 2021,³ the assistance programs tend to be launched to coincide with the loss of patent protection to encourage continued adherence to the brand name drug. The congressional report found that the programs do not have outwardly clear eligibility guidelines. Thus, we do not have a sense of how manufacturers select those members who would be eligible for patient assistance, how long programs reimburse out-of-pocket costs, and how long a person may remain on a program.

We do have a sense of how much patient assistance programs cost the manufacturers, however. The congressional report indicated that manufacturers spent less than 1% of the drug's net revenue on patient assistance.

This amendment recognizes the gap in data that the program is experiencing in unwinding the "spaghetti bowl" of the prescription drug chain without unduly hindering consumers' access to prescription drugs. We urge the committee adopt this amendment and pass the bill.

For questions or follow-up information, please contact me at richard.blackwell@pacificsource.com.

Sincerely,

/s

Richard Blackwell
Director, Oregon Government Relations

³ <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/60917>