



Oregon

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TO: The Honorable Mitch Greenlick, Chair
House Health Care Committee

FROM: Jeanene Smith, MD, MPH
Administrator, Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research
Oregon Department of Human Services

SUBJECT: SB 862A "Multi-Share"

Chair Mitch Greenlick and members of the committee. I am Jeanene Smith, Administrator of the Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research. My office worked with the sponsors of this bill to develop

SB 862A as the concept of empowering local communities to provide access to needed health care services through innovative and strategic partnerships and align with key activities and initiatives recommended by the Oregon Health Fund Board (OHFB), which my office staffed.

The Board and its Delivery Systems Committee spent a great deal of time focusing on Oregon's current delivery system which is not equipped to meet the long-term prevention and primary care health needs of the population. Care is fragmented and many Oregonians do not have regular and convenient access to a provider who can coordinate their care. In general, the current system rewards the treatment of acute problems, rather than focusing on keeping people healthy, preventing disease, and effectively managing health conditions once they are diagnosed.

So the Board and its Delivery Systems Committee recommended opportunities to revitalize primary care and support community-driven efforts to prevent chronic diseases and improve population health. Research demonstrates better health outcomes, higher patient satisfaction, and lower cost per capita in countries with strong prevention and primary care systems.

The initiatives established in SB 862A align with the Board's recommendation to foster innovation in the health care delivery in local communities. Many of the community collaboratives across Oregon seek to identify and target specific community needs in order to increase access to healthcare services and provide outreach, education, and advocacy. The Board and its Delivery Systems Committee listened and learned of the exciting activities in several Oregon communities. The Board believes community-based innovation projects are the "learning laboratories" for the needed transformative change in Oregon's health care delivery system. It is in the interest of the state to promote such activities and foster the exchange of best practices among communities.

