

Public Comments

035 St. Charles-The Center

This document presents written public comments related to the emergency exemption 035 St. Charles-The Center by Oregon Health Authority (OHA) under the [Health Care Market Oversight](#) program. OHA accepted public comments until 07/31/2024. Public comments were received via email to hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov, voicemail, or by filling out the [Public Comment Form](#). Comments are presented below in the order received and may include typos or misspellings. Personal contact information for individuals has been removed.

OHA expresses no views on the substance of these comments, and their publication does not constitute an endorsement by OHA of the views expressed.

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Public Comments

1. Subject: St. Charles-The Center

Received 07/31/2024

Oregon Health Care Market Oversight Staff,

On behalf of Bend Memorial Clinic, the medical group is writing in support of a potential transaction by The Center and St. Charles Health System to expand their relationship. The organizations recently submitted an emergency exemption request to the Oregon Health Authority's Material Transaction Review process that we hope you will approve.

After more than a decade of working with both The Center and St Charles, our group is in support of any action that maintains and eventually enhances patient access to Orthopedics services in Central Oregon. Over the past few years, the community has seen significant reductions in the supply of orthopedic physicians while at the same time the community has remained one of the fastest growing small cities in the United States.

Summit Health is committed to work collaboratively with both The Center and St. Charles in the coming months and years to further expand access to care for the entire community and fully support actions designed to keep physicians and advanced practice providers working in Central Oregon. If we can help the state or our partners in Central Oregon during this challenging time, we would be happy to do so.

Thank you for your consideration,

Justin Sivill

About HCMO

The Health Care Market Oversight program reviews proposed health care business deals to make sure they support statewide goals related to cost, equity, access, and quality. For more info, you can connect with HCMO staff:



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