

## **OREGON STATE SENATE**

May 29, 2025

Obadiah Rutledge Secretary of the Senate

RE: Vote Explanation for House Bill 2385 B

Dear Secretary Rutledge,

I voted yes on HB 2385 B, but not without reservations about the broader systemic issues within the 340B program that this legislation does not address. My decision to support HB 2385 B was primarily driven by the immediate impact on Oregon's most vulnerable populations served by Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The testimony from Neighborhood Health Center and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, both who serve clients within my district, highlighted critical access issues that cannot wait for federal reform. According to their testimony, pharmaceutical manufacturer restrictions implemented since 2020 have systematically undermined the 340B drug pricing program by forcing patients to travel unreasonable distances for essential medications, cutting millions in revenue from safety net providers who serve low-income populations, and dismantling a 30-year-old system that previously allowed unlimited pharmacy partnerships to ensure convenient access to affordable care.

While I support protecting patient access, I share concerns raised by others about the lack of oversight and accountability within the 340B program. The 340B program has grown dramatically from \$15 billion in 2010 to \$66 billion in 2023, with 78% of funds going to disproportionate share hospitals rather than the safety net providers this bill aims to protect. This raises serious questions about whether 340B savings are reaching vulnerable patients, or primarily benefiting large corporate entities. HB 2385 B fails to address these oversight concerns or ensure that expanded pharmacy access helps patients rather than simply boosting revenue for covered entities.

I voted yes because Oregon's FQHCs provide essential care to our most vulnerable residents, and restrictions create harm to patient access. However, I strongly encourage our federal delegation to prioritize comprehensive 340B reform that includes meaningful oversight mechanisms to ensure program dollars reach their intended beneficiaries. This state-level fix, while necessary, should not distract us from pursuing the federal reforms needed to address the program's underlying systemic issues.

Sincerely,

Janen Saleman

Senator Janeen Sollman Senate District 15

900 Court St. NE., Salem, OR 97301- 503-986-1715 sen.janeensollman@oregonlegislature.gov