



Legislative Report

February 28th, 2023

Overview & Major Highlights

The past two weeks have featured a myriad of topics in the health care space.



The week of Valentine's Day kicked off with a series of bills on access to dental professions in the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care, including reduction of barriers to certification, hiring, and retention for dental hygienists and technicians. Other bills would expand incentivization programs for nurses and nurse education in rural areas, make adjustments to elements of the Cost Growth Target, and amend prior standards on Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) contracting and data sharing. Specific bills of note which received a hearing were [HB 2574](#) which would expand accessibility to HIV post-exposure prophylactic drugs, and [HB 2458](#) which would ban conversion therapy by licensed mental and social health care providers. Additionally, a work session was held on the 42-page [HB 2395](#) (most updated version) brought forward by Representative Dexter to address the opioid crisis – it was passed with amendments out of committee to the House floor.

In the Senate Committee on Health Care, while many bills were heard, the one that perhaps garnished the most media attention was [SB 704](#) on Universal Health Care. The bill would establish a Governance Board, which would be directed to create a plan to establish a Universal Health Plan by 2027. The public hearing saw over 50 people registered to testify as well as dozens of pieces of written testimony; witness testimony was spread across two days of public hearings and a work session is scheduled for Monday, February 27th. Other major topics addressed by the committee included suicide prevention, collection, and dissemination of REAL-D and SOGI data by the Oregon Health Authority, data systems for finding, contracting, and billing for health care interpretation services, the certified community behavioral





Elsewhere in the capitol building, major housing policies were heard, like [HB 2001](#) which is a comprehensive 133-page package addressing Oregon's housing crisis from a number of angles including eviction protections, creating a needs analysis, housing production, and many others. Additionally, the Joint Committee on Ways and Means met for only the second time this session for a series of hearings on grant applications and a third work session

on [HB 2058](#) related to financial assistance for agricultural overtime compensation payments. This brings us to the end of the first month of the Legislative Session – marked by a record-breaking winter storm! This storm shut down committee meetings on February 23rd, resulting in many committees carrying work over into the following week.

Key Session Deadlines



[View All Activities...](#)

During the past two weeks, OPCA's Policy Team continued meeting with legislators and helped facilitate Representative Conrad's visit to White Bird Clinic in Eugene. Our gratitude to the clinic staff and leaders who made that visit possible

Outside of meetings and site visits, the team submitted testimony on several bills including one of our priority bills, [House Bill 3040](#) on Coordinated Care Organizations sharing claims data with FQHCs. OPCA was joined in that testimony by OCHIN and several FQHC leaders. OPCA's Governmental Affairs Director, Marty Carty, also provided oral comments in support of Senate Bill 624 (recording [here](#)) on CCBHC's and in opposition to certain elements of House Bill 2928 which would limit incentives for nurse education to that which is provided only in hospitals (recording [here](#)).

In addition written testimony was submitted in support of [House Bill 2979](#) on creating avenues to education and careers in dentistry (testimony [here](#)) and for House Bill 2001 on addressing Oregon's housing crisis (testimony [here](#)). House Bill 2001's work session as carried over to Monday, the 27th due to the winter storm.

In addition to following and acting on bills moving through the legislature, the policy team is acutely aware of the looming reality of Medicaid redetermination. They are hosting two Medicaid Redetermination Office Hours to share policy updates, best practice information, and facilitate an open space for resource sharing among members. The February 22nd event has already passed, however there is still the opportunity to attend on March 1st at 12:00PM PST.

[Register Here](#)



Hosting a Legislator?

Use our district specific data tool to find policy fliers including district and statewide infographics and Oregon Network information from HRSA.

[Click here to see more](#)

OPCA Policy Priority Areas

Below is an update on the status of OPCA's priority bills -- an interactive

tracker is coming to our website soon!

- [House Bill 2002](#): Reproductive Health FQHC Pilot Program – This bill is included in a large package concerning reproductive health equity and access. See page 13 of the bill to read text on the FQHC Pilot Program. Bill is scheduled to be read on the House floor on February 28th. Our One-Pager Linked [Here](#).
- Basic Health Plan (Bill Number TBD) – There are no additional updates at this time. Our Issue Brief on Redetermination Linked [Here](#).
- [Senate Bill 441](#): Dental Care Provider Incentive Program – Public Hearing held in the Senate Health Care Committee on January 30th, no further scheduled events at this time.
- [Senate Bill 608](#): Professional Dispense Fee for Prescription Medications and Pharmacy Benefit Manager Protections for 340B Covered Entities – Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Care, no further scheduled events at this time. Our One-Pager Linked [Here](#).
- [UPDATE] Switch from [House Bill 2462](#) to [Senate Bill 624](#): Expands Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) – HB 2462 and SB 624 are bills that serve the same function, just introduced in different chambers for capacity reasons. There has been more movement with the Senate version of this bill, so we are adjusting our prioritization to track SB 624. This bill was heard in the Senate Health Care Committee on February 20th and OPCA provided oral testimony. There are no further scheduled events at this time.
- [House Bill 2555](#): Payment Parity for Naturopathic Doctors – Referred to House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee with subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. No further scheduled events at this time.
- [House Bill 2918](#): Continues Mobile Health Unit Pilot Program – Currently in the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care with a public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, March 1st. If you are interested in submitting written testimony, click [here](#) for more information or feel free to contact one of the OPCA Policy Team members!
- [House Bill 3012](#): Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform (Annual Reporting Requirements) – Public Hearing was held in the House Behavioral Health and

Health Care Committee on January 25th and has seen no further action since.

- [**House Bill 3013:**](#) Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform (Claims and Contract Pharmacies) -- Public Hearing was held in the House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee on January 25th, no further action since.
- [**House Bill 3015:**](#) Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform (Reimbursement Restrictions) -- Public Hearing was held in the House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee on January 25th, no further action since.
- [**House Bill 3040:**](#) CCO Data Sharing – Public Hearing held in the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care (OPCA and other FQHC stakeholders provided oral comments, see recording [here](#)) on February 22nd. No further meetings are scheduled at this time.

OPCA's Policy Team



Danielle Sobel
Policy & Regulatory
Affairs Sr. Director
dsobel@orpca.org
Pronouns: She/her/hers



Marty Carty
Governmental Affairs
Director
mcarty@orpca.org
Pronouns: He/him/his



Marris Alden
Health Policy Analyst
malden@orpca.org
Pronouns: She/her/hers

[Policy Update](#)

[Policy Tracker](#)
(Coming Soon!)

[Find Your Legislator](#)

Get In
Touch



Oregon Primary Care Association | 623 SW Oak St., Suite 300, Portland, OR 97204

[Unsubscribe jfrazier@orpca.org](mailto:jfrazier@orpca.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by bydsobel@orpca.org in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!