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Ryan Keeling
Financial Regulation Section, Oregon Insurance Division
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May 28, 2015

Comments on Proposed Sale of Trillium Community Health Plan to Centene Corporation

Dear Mr. Keeling,

I am writing to express to you, and to state insurance commissioner Laura Cali, my opposition to the proposed sale of Agate Resources and its subsidiaries, including Trillium Community Health Plan, to Centene Corporation.

While I am not directly associated with Trillium, I am a concerned tax-paying citizen and currently serve on the Citizen's Advisory Council to my local coordinated care organization. I understand Oregon's Triple Aim to be the improvement of patient care, improvement of overall population health, and lower health care costs.

While I believe that health care providers are entitled to fair payment for services rendered, I do not believe that private corporations should be making the high profits that allow them to pay their CEOs exorbitant earnings and benefits, using taxpayer dollars. I also do not believe that out-of-state corporations should be allowed to "cash in" on Oregon's experimental health care delivery model.

I've read that Trillium's profits more than doubled in the past year, and yet I continue to hear complaints from OHP members who are not able to receive health care services in a timely manner, through Trillium and other CCOs. Some of these people are in need of mental health services, and lengthy delays in service are particularly problematic for them.

If we are serious about meeting Oregon's Triple Aim, then we must develop models of care that turn health care savings not into high CEO salaries but rather into health care services delivered to more people who need them, when they need them. Oregon's CCOs should not be seen as lucrative enterprises that can be bought to pad the pockets of corporate shareholders.

Please help make sure that taxpayer dollars intended to improve the health of my fellow Oregonians will be used for that worthwhile purpose.

Respectfully yours,

Jennifer Carloni