



February 1, 2019

Jesse O'Brien
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Oregon Division of Financial Regulation
350 Winter Street NE
Salem, OR 97309-0405

Richard Blackwell
Policy Manager
Oregon Division of Financial Regulation
350 Winter Street NE
Salem, OR 97309-0405

Re: Proposed Rules – Oregon Prescription Drug Price Transparency Program

Dear Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Blackwell:

I write today on behalf of America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) to express our support for Oregon's efforts to address high drug costs and increase transparency in the black box of prescription drug pricing.

AHIP is the national association whose members provide insurance coverage for health care and related services. Through these offerings, we improve and protect the health and financial security of consumers, families, businesses, communities and the nation. We are committed to market-based solutions and public-private partnerships that improve affordability, value, access and well-being for consumers.

Pharmaceutical advances are important to improve the health and lives of patients, but recent industry pricing practices have a significant and harmful impact across our health care system – endangering patients' access to the medications they need, inflating state and local budgets, and threatening the long-term sustainability of the public's ability to pay for innovation.

The vast majority of Americans think drug prices are unreasonable and support policies that require manufactures to report information about how they set their prices. With bipartisan support in both houses of the legislature, HB 4005 was backed by a wide variety of organizations that continue to be concerned with unexpected and unexplained price increases – from large and small businesses, to labor unions, to patient groups and nearly every sector of health care.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with the department on this important issue and look forward to continued discussions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at sberry@ahip.org or 202-807-9984.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Berry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Berry
Regional Director, State Affairs