



OneCare Vermont

June 22, 2020

Dear Chair Lyons and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. The pandemic has created a financial crisis for Vermont's health care providers. Fixed Prospective Payments administered through OneCare Vermont have been one of the few stable sources of income for hospitals and some independent primary care practices. Now, more than ever, we need to look at the benefits of the All Payer Accountable Care Organization model (APM) and accelerate payment and delivery system reform to protect against future instability.

Population health reform efforts that are effectuated through OneCare are necessary for us to meet our access, prevention, and chronic condition management goals under the APM. The economic instability in the system has made it challenging for hospitals to sustain the financial investments needed to implement important population health management (PHM) efforts within their organizations and for their respective communities. Hospitals are funding ~\$15 million in PHM investments and approximately \$9 million of that investment is provided to community organizations. I encourage you to add language that asks OneCare (Certified ACO) to contribute to the Agency of Human Services needs assessment process to account for these investments. Certified Accountable Care Organization(s) should be added to the eligible provider list as well.

The pandemic has demonstrated the value of moving away from a fee for service payment model. Absent funding to stabilize the healthcare system and continue these investments, we will backslide on the important progress that we have made toward a more sustainable healthcare system and a healthier Vermont. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Vicki Loner, RN.C, MHCDS
CEO