



Good afternoon, Madam Chair and members of the committee. My name is Kate Horle and I am the Chief Operations Officer for CORHIO, one of two health information exchanges in Colorado. I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you in support of House Bill 1085. I want to thank Representative Kennedy for the opportunity to be an active part of the development of this important legislation and for his leadership in combating the opioid crisis in Colorado.

CORHIO provides health data exchange services for hundreds of hospitals and clinical providers across Colorado, as well as maintaining a close partnership with many of the agencies of the state who support the most vulnerable of our residents. Our role is to ensure that providers of care have real time, clinical health information on those for whom they care so that they can provide the best treatment for the individual in front of them. CORHIO provides a longitudinal record of a patient's clinical history, as well as notifications about admission and discharge to a hospital (among other services), so care coordination teams and clinical providers do not have to spend precious time tracking down a patient's records instead of caring for them.

This bill would enable the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to be more effectively used by enabling a statewide integration of this program into the two health information exchanges, CORHIO and Quality Health Network, in Colorado, making access easy, fast and inside the workflow of Colorado's clinical providers. Further, enabling the Colorado Board of Pharmacy to add legacy and other drug classifications, beyond the current mandated drugs, to be added to the PDMP will allow physicians to query for prescriptions for medications that can have lethal or serious side effects when unintentionally combined with other medications. Having access to this information, while being able to see a patient's clinical history in the HIE, could potentially be lifesaving.

CORHIO and Quality Health Network are key components in the care network for all of Colorado's residents and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to ending the devastating impacts of the opioid crisis on Colorado's residents.

I'm happy to take any questions about HIEs or our potential role in this legislation.