

October 31, 2023

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21244

Via electronic delivery

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure,

I am reaching out regarding Oregon's efforts to expand automatic voter registration by partnering with the Oregon Health Plan, Oregon's Medicaid program.

As you may already know, Oregon was the first state in the nation to implement automatic voter registration (AVR) in 2015. Earlier this year, I signed <u>House Bill 2107</u> into law, expanding Oregon's successful DMV-based AVR system to the Oregon Health Authority to securely and automatically register eligible Oregonians applying for Medicaid to vote.

Expanding AVR systems to Medicaid will efficiently and securely register more eligible voters, with a particular impact on those who come from historically underrepresented populations. It is also my hope and expectation that AVR at Medicaid will further improve the accuracy and quality of our voter registration rolls by enabling more efficient processes to update data, such as address changes.

House Bill 2107 seeks to implement AVR by June 1, 2026. Implementation will require system changes, rule adoption, coordination with county clerks, and public communication. For these reasons I ask for swift review by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to support Oregon's efforts to implement this important policy. If you have any questions or need additional information from my office, please contact Lindsey O'Brien (lindsey.obrien@oregon.gov).

I also want to take this opportunity to thank you, and many other CMS officials, for your ongoing partnership with Oregon. My team and I are eager to continue working with you on the transformative opportunities in our latest 1115 Medicaid demonstration waiver.

Sincerely,

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Governor Tina Kotek

cc: Erin Richardson, Chief of Staff, CMS Hannah Katch, Senior Advisor, CMS Dave Baden, OHA Director

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