



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Human Services

Addictions and Mental Health Division

500 Summer Street NE E86

Salem, OR 97301-1118

Voice 503-945-5763

Fax 503-378-8467

June 15, 2009

2009 JUN 17 PM 1:53

ENTERED \_\_\_\_\_

Rob Bovett  
225 West Olive St., Ste 110  
Newport, OR 97365

Dear Mr. Bovett:

In July of 2006, Oregon law required an individual possess a valid prescription to purchase pseudoephedrine at a pharmacy. Since then, methamphetamine labs have almost been eliminated in Oregon. In 2006 there were 63 documented clandestine methamphetamine labs reported in Oregon. Two years later the number of labs decreased to 18.

Per your request, we contacted our state Medicaid program to determine the financial impact of requiring a valid prescription for the purchase of pseudoephedrine. There has been a very small impact to Oregon's Medicaid program. Requiring a prescription for the purchase of pseudoephedrine has resulted in an annual increase of \$7,780 to the state's Medicaid program based on the cost of the medication.

The increase in the cost of prescriptions to the state's Medicaid program is far outweighed by the decrease in costs associated with public safety, emergency room visits, and social services.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Harris  
Interim Assistant Director

TH/pt

If you need this letter in alternate format, please call 503-945-5763 (Voice) or 800-375-2863 (TTY)

*"Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe"*

An Equal Opportunity Employer

HSS1601 (11/06)