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To: [Malone Debbie](#)
Cc: wrfan1@yahoo.com
Subject: HB 2922 Testimony (thank you)
Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 11:37:52 AM

Dear Staff,

Thank you for your consideration of my written testimony on Affordable Health Care in Oregon. I hope that we can be successful, in terms of bringing affordable, safe, and timely medical services to all Oregonians (including non-citizens, immigrants and their families), irregardless of ability to pay, socio-economic or citizen status, etc.

For your information, I work very hard at a job that I actually enjoy, receive limited food stamps, Section 8 housing voucher, periodic unemployment benefits, but no healthcare insurance, whatsoever (I have type two diabetes, and am in need of dental services, but can not receive dental care, until my blood sugar can be brought under control) so it is a vicious cycle of ending up in a more expensive emergency room, as opposed to a preventative health plan that is cheaper. I can not afford these medical expenses out-of-pocket, because I earn so very little. Finally, I also have college loans, but I earn so little, and refuse to carry additional debt. I am concerned about unfair college loan burden, too.

I am part of the working class between the ages of 26 and 65, who no longer qualify to be placed under their parents' insurance, but who are too young to be eligible for Medicare, unless fully disabled. There are many programs, that my age group does not qualify for. Unless we are fortunate to receive medical insurance thru a generous employer, we are at the whims of destiny, meaning if we get sick, the only savings grace provided to us, is unpaid sick leave if we happen to work in Portland.

Part of the reason why people end up joining the overburdened ranks of Medicare in the first place, is because they had to forfeit healthcare, during their prime work years. This takes a heavy toll on our society, especially for older women. **Either we invest in people now, or we will later on, when it become much more expensive to do so. Thank you.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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