

## **HB 3260 Testimony from Samuel Metz, MD, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

I am a Portland anesthesiologist. I represent the Portland chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program to Health Care for All Oregon. I participated in the drafting of HB 3260, authorizing the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study of Oregon's health care financing alternatives.

One intent of the bill was to spare the state any obligation to fund this study. I am pleased the Legislative Fiscal Office confirmed a zero fiscal impact on the state budget.

I would like to comment on the \$600,000 estimate which appears in the LFO document. My understanding is this figure was an educated guess given over the telephone on very short notice from the New York State Department of Health and Department of Insurance.

One of my assignments as a contributor to HB 3260 was to find estimates for the study. I asked agencies that performed similar studies for other states, organizers who paid for the study in other states, and possible candidates to conduct our study in Oregon. Here are the estimates.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Study state</b>	<b>Source for estimate</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
Lewin	Minnesota	Amy Lange, Minnesota	\$50,000
Urban Institute	New York	Linda Blumberg, Urban Institute	\$125,000
Gruber group	Minnesota	Amy Lange, Minnesota	\$160,000
OSU Public Health	Oregon	Chunwei Chi, OSU	\$180,000
Mathematica	Minnesota	Amy Lange, Minnesota	\$200,000
Optomus	Kansas	Stephan Schramm, Optomus	\$200,000

I could not find a written figure, but several informal estimates for the cost of the Vermont study (on which their new health plan is based) were \$300,000.

It is my sense from this preliminary investigation that the HB 3260 study could be completed with 1/3 of the estimate in the LFO document.



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

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April 5, 2013

The Honorable Representative Dembrow  
The Honorable Representative Greenlick  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
H-278 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representatives Dembrow and Greenlick:

I am writing in support of a study of Oregon's health care financing options. Sound health policy needs to be based on comprehensive and reliable information. The knowledge gained from the studies outlined in HB 3260 will contribute greatly to the development of health policy here in Oregon. The Oregon Health Authority stands ready to carry out this important work should the legislation pass.

As you debate and work this bill, there is one minor administrative item I would like to draw your attention to. As currently conceived, HB3260 appears to require the Oregon Health Authority to solicit sufficient funds to do this work. If the legislature is unable to fund the study, I think it more appropriate to allow us to solicit outside funders and to do the study if we obtain the necessary funds, rather than require us to find sufficient outside funds, as I cannot provide assurance that we will be successful in finding the necessary funding.

Sincerely,

Bruce Goldberg, M.D.  
Director

# Health Care for **ALL** Oregon

## Oregon needs a health care study - Now we have the chance to get one: HB 3260!

**Keep health care reform in Oregon alive and well. Take action NOW.**

The Oregon House Health Care Committee will consider a ***study of health care financing options in Oregon***. Fifteen other states and the federal government already completed over 25 studies, but not Oregon. Oregon needs this study if it ever wants to achieve effective health care reform.

HB 3260 is sponsored by state Representatives Michael Dembrow and Jennifer Williamson and by Senators Chip Shields and Laurie Monnes Anderson. The House hearing **is April 5<sup>th</sup>**; a Senate hearing is not yet scheduled.

If this bill passes, the Oregon Health Authority will supervise a study comparing at least four ***options for health care financing***:

1. Implementing the ***Affordable Care Act*** without modification,
2. Adding a ***public option*** in the state insurance exchange,
3. Statewide ***single payer*** health care, and...
4. "Other."

The bill directs the OHA to "solicit gifts, grants and other funds from public and private sources" to pay for the study.

**Please [read the bill](#) and take action.** Check as many boxes as you can:

We enthusiastically endorse HB 3260, Oregon's health care financing study.

We are unable to endorse specific bills, but we enthusiastically endorse a study of Oregon's health care financing alternatives.

We want to testify at the HB 3260 hearing on April 5<sup>th</sup>, if possible.

Please send this form and your replies back to HCAO: [info@hcao.org](mailto:info@hcao.org).

Don't forget to visit, call, or write your state ***representative and senator***. Tell them you want HB 3260 passed and you want it NOW.

Signed: Joseph Santos-Lyons Position Executive Director

Organization: APANO Date: March 18, 2013

Address: 240 N Broadway, Ste 215. Portland OR zip 97227