

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.

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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 5th, if possible.

Please send this form and your replies back to HCAO: 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

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Oregon
Health
Authority

500 Summer Street NE E20
Salem, OR 97301
Voice: 503-947-2340
Fax: 503-947-2341
www.oregon.gov/oha

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

The Future of Health Care in Oregon

A statement as part of the testimony on HB 3260 for Oregon State House Health Care Committee

Prepared by: Chunhuei Chi, MPH, Sc.D., Associate Professor and Coordinator of International Health Program, College of Public Health and Human Sciences, Oregon State University

With assistance from Aurora VanGarde, Rebecca Schoon, and Carla Alvarado, all are graduate students in Public Health at Oregon State University

April 5, 2013

A society's health care system is an integral part of its social institution, rather than merely a service system organized either by the government or free market. As such, a society's health care system reflects the nature and characteristics of its people. If we treat our health care system as our social institution, we would want this system to represent our values, compassion, and caring capacity for the sick and unfortunate.

For centuries we have treated our health care system as a free market enterprise where individuals access health care services according to one's means. That leaves out those who do not have adequate means with inadequate or no access to health care services. In 2011, there were 22.1% uninsured among Oregonians age 18 to 64. Besides causing inadequate access to health care, our current system also contributes to both high costs and waste in health care service spending. Between 1999 and 2010, while average wage increased 42%, health insurance premium for family coverage increased 138%. [Commonwealth Fund 2011] This continuing widening gap between health care costs and wage increase is unsustainable, which is also strong evidence that our current system is failing us. Further, despite being the most expensive health care system in the World, U.S. ranked near or at the bottom among Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) nations in most indicators of health care access or outcome. For example, when sick or needing medical attention, only 43% of U.S. adults were able to have same or next day appointment, while 80% of Dutch, 71% of New Zealanders, 62% of French and 61% of British have such access. All these nations have government funded universal health care. [Commonwealth Fund 2011] In 2009 the U.S. spent \$531.5 per capita on health insurance administration, while Japan spent only \$53.6. [Commonwealth Fund 2011] As for health care outcome, in a comparison of mortality amenable to health care among 16 OECD countries, U.S. ranked at the bottom with a statistic of 96 per 100,000 deaths amenable to health care in 2005-2006, compared with 55 for France and 60 for Italy. [Commonwealth Fund 2011]

All of these indicators suggests that our current system is the most expensive and the most inefficient and inequitable health care system among OECD nations. Not something we can feel proud of, or to reflect the characters of our people and

society. There is little doubt that we are urgently in need of significantly reforming our health care system. The question is to which system shall our health care system transform into.

As a health policy professor at Oregon State University, I urge the House Committee on Health Care to consider and advance HB3260. While the Affordable Care Act (ACA) attempts to mitigate some of those problems described above, it is widely acknowledged to provide only a patchwork of solutions that leaves more fundamental structural problems intact. These problems are complex, yet critical to the well-being of our state and nation. National health expenditures consume 18% of GDP and are only projected to rise. These financial pressures exist alongside innumerable testimonies of individuals and families whose lives have been negatively impacted by a system that has failed to provide the opportunity for affordable care. The myriad burdens within our current system that will remain even after full implementation of the ACA warrant a commitment to thoroughly exploring potential solutions. HB3260 represents the type of tangible research that is needed to allow policy-makers to weigh various approaches to these pressing challenges. This information-gathering will critically illuminate strengths and weaknesses across a spectrum of various courses, thereby enabling legislators to fulfill their mandate of governing in the best interest of their constituents.

The ACA reforms are characterized by a piecemeal approach of subsidies and taxes that fail to establish a comprehensive system of cost containment, while neglecting more core issues of health system financing that profoundly impact overall system costs. While the insurance mandate will expand the number of people in insurance risk pools, the segmented nature of our health insurance system will continue to be problematic. High costs associated with the fragmented system will remain, including administrative demands, costs of negotiating rate setting, marketing, and more. The cost-shifting that characterizes this fragmentation will continue to obscure the financial burdens throughout the system and impede needed systemic improvements. Of special concern, the ability of insurance companies to segment members by risk through offering plans of different coverage will continue to lead to those with the highest need for medical care paying significantly more for their care. As long as there is differentiation in risk pools within and beyond the Exchanges, affordability for those who are less healthy will be a persistent problem. The Congressional Budget Office maintains that higher-risk groups will likely still incur higher costs despite risk adjustment. Once the ACA is fully implemented, while access will be improved, we will still be a long distance from achieving affordable, quality health care for all. Further, under the ACA, despite the persistence of these problems negatively impacting access to and financial burden of health care, no one can be held accountable.

The proposed study will critically enable Oregon's ability to assertively address the remaining problems we currently face. Without reliable and rigorous research, these decisions can only be based on speculation or ideology, coupled with endless debates. It is vital that we conduct research so that we can ground our policy decisions on sound data. This is a matter that merits, indeed demands, active investigation. Without invoking a foundation of reliable research, the resulting inaction will

continue to become the default support for the status quo system. On the other hand, the established cost projections are capable of incentivizing action.

The good news is that there is significant potential for improvement to be felt. Analyzing options in our health system financing has the potential to reduce costs for individuals, businesses and government, while increasing access, and reallocating resources to improve quality. We will not know how to achieve these goals if we do not engage in the investigations around various questions. The current system of health financing not only poses severe budgetary challenges, but is also a question of the well-being of our families, neighbors and communities. This is a story of fiscal efficiency, but also of how sickness and health, life and death are distributed in our society. Health care reform is among the most urgent priorities of our time. Our current system is fiscally unsustainable and, it can be argued, ethically untenable.

As a health policy professor, I have to believe that the government is a conduit through which we can engage in deliberative action to improve our society. Moreover, that this process is characterized by a pursuit of reliable information and community input that can enable dialogue and build a rational foundation for assessment. HB3260 directly speaks to the health of our communities and of our fiscal stability - valid concerns respectively and especially urgent collectively. Oregon is a model for innovation in health policies, and for creating opportunities for an exceptionally high quality of life for its residents, including healthy communities. Support for HB3260 is entirely in keeping with our commitment to well-being and innovation at the state level to engage evidence-based approaches to address the health care crises we collectively face. It is also the first step towards promoting a health system that can improve Oregonians' health in an efficient, equitable and sustainable way; and a system that reflects the fine character of Oregonians.

RESOLUTION 2013 - 13

Minutes of the April 1, 2013, Corvallis City Council meeting, continued.

A resolution submitted by Councilor Joel Hirsch.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Corvallis believes that every citizen and family in our city, county, the state of Oregon will benefit from affordable, quality health care, and the City Council believes that disruptive health care costs to local economies and governments would be reduced thereby; and

WHEREAS, that even with the expected benefits of the federal Affordable Care Act and Oregon's Coordinated Care Organizations, healthcare costs are expected to continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, a well designed health care system could relieve businesses and city governments of their current healthcare costs and result in better access to health care and health outcomes for all residents of our cities and state; and

WHEREAS, as a major local employer, the City of Corvallis provides health insurance for over 400 employees and their families and has worked for many years to provide cost effective, responsive health care insurance through an investment in health strategy and partnerships with other employers, and yet has still experienced rapid increases in health care premiums and expenses; and

WHEREAS, such matters as health care affordability and access ultimately are community issues with local importance and long-term impacts that strain local government budgets in diverse ways, such as public safety and school health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis Vision 2020 Statement references such impacts and sets a community goal for comprehensive health services that are easily accessible and available to all residents; and

WHEREAS, even those people who have health insurance experience high medical debt, and medical costs are a frequent cause of filing personal bankruptcy for those that are insured as well as those who lack insurance; and

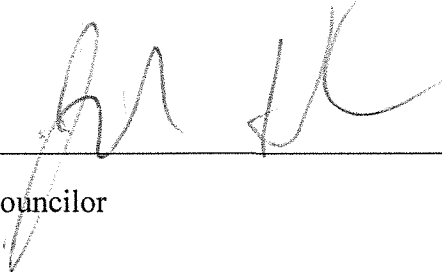
WHEREAS, health care reform efforts are aimed at improving access and affordability of health care as well as transparency of cost and performance information and provider and consumer incentives for wise use of health care and engagement in wellness and prevention; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Corvallis has a history of supporting single payer health care, as noted in its 2011 Resolution in support of House Bill 3510 or Senate Bill 888.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORVALLIS RESOLVES that the City Council, in order to support access for the citizens of Corvallis to higher quality and effective health care, urges the Oregon state legislature to enact House Bill 3260, which would direct the Oregon legislature to conduct a study of relative costs and benefits among several health care plan proposals, including:

- (a) a publicly financed, privately delivered single-payer system such as used successfully by most other developed countries,

- (b) the current system in Oregon and the US including P-PACA and Coordinated Care Organizations created by Oregon's Health Care Transformation legislation,
- (c) a system allowing choice of private versus public insurance, and
- (d) other options to be suggested by the investigator performing the study.



Councilor

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was adopted, and the Mayor thereupon declared said resolution to be adopted.

April 5, 2013

The Multnomah Elders in Action Commission is pleased to announce that it has unanimously voted to endorse House Bill 3260, which would require the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study that would result in a recommendation of the best option for financing health care in the state.

As Chair of the Commission, I have been authorized to make that endorsement known to the public. I invite all those who are interested to visit the Commission's web site at www.eldersinaction.org. We hope to be sending out an email soon informing the public about all of our legislative recommendations.

Steve Weiss
Chairperson
Multnomah Elders in Action Commission



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4. "Other."

This study will be privately funded. There is no cost to taxpayers.

Oregon Small Business Endorsement

Oregon needs a health care cost study. We join the wide spectrum of individuals and groups who support HB 3260. We call upon our legislators and Governor Kitzhaber to support HB 3260.

Business name: The Rowdy Goddess Date 3-27-13

Signature:

Address: 305 Scorpio Dr zip 97850

Phone: 541-963-9397 email: therowdygoddess@gmail.com

Oregon Rural Action P.O. Box 1231 La Grande, Oregon 97850



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Business name: Copies Plus Date 3-27-13

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: 1904 Adams Avenue LaGrande OR zip 97850

Phone: 541-663-0725 email: copiespluslg@yahoo.com

Oregon Rural Action P.O. Box 1231 La Grande, Oregon 97850



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Business name: Direct Music Source Date 3/27/13
 Signature: *Anthony K. Long*
 Address: 1010 Adams Ave LaGrande, OR zip 97850
 Phone: (541) 962-0307 email: directmusicsource@gmail.com

Oregon Rural Action P.O. Box 1231 La Grande, Oregon 97850



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Business name: The Blue Turtle Gallery Date 3-26-13

Signature: Alaron Porter

Address: 1124 Adams Ave., La Grande, OR zip 97850

Phone: 541.963.3841 email: blueturtlegallery@gmail.com

Oregon Rural Action P.O. Box 1231 La Grande, Oregon 97850



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Business name: Community Merchants Date 5/26/13

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: 1019 Adams Ave LaGrande OR zip 97850

Phone (541)663-0975 email: Communitymerchant@gmail.com

Oregon Rural Action P.O. Box 1231 La Grande, Oregon 97850

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Signed: Allen Hollenbeck Position: Designated Spokesman
 Organization: Citizen for Peace & Justice Date: March 16, 2013
 Address: 1022 SE Belle Meire Dr., GrantsPass or 97326

See: www.cpjnewford.org

Support for HB 3260 from **Jeff Cogen, Chair of the Multnomah Board of County Commissioners**. He speaks as individual, not for the Board.

From: Jeff Cogen [jeff.cogen@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 2:24 PM
To: s@samuelmetz.com
Subject: Re: a study of health care alternatives in Oregon

Hi Sam,

Our Board has already adopted our legislative agenda and did not identify HB 3260 for inclusion on it, so the full board won't weigh in. That said, I think this makes a lot of sense, so I'm happy to weigh in in support. I have a conflict on my schedule on April 5th which I will try to move, but in any event will send in a letter in support.

Thanks for highlighting this for me.

Jeff

April 5, 2013

To: Oregon State Legislators
From: Main Street Alliance of Oregon
Re: Support of HB 3260

Main Street Alliance of Oregon, a network of over 1200 small business owners throughout Oregon, supports HB 3260, which would allow the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study or contract with a third party to study options for efficient spending on healthcare in Oregon.

In a recent poll of rural Oregon small business owners we learned that 86% of those surveyed do not supply health insurance for their employees. Many cite rising costs as why, even if they formerly provided health insurance, they do not now.

Because of the increasing costs of healthcare to the state, we must look at all financing options to provide the best care for Oregonians. A number of studies such as the one proposed in this bill have been conducted nationally and in other states. None, however, address the specific issue of their effects on Oregon patients, Oregon's economy, or Oregon's physicians and providers. With Oregon spending \$30 billion annually on health care, it is important that we use the money in a financially prudent way, and get the best bang for our bucks.

Oregon, in initiatives like Cover Oregon and the Coordinated Care Organizations, has shown we are willing to take pioneering steps to confront challenges other states continue to shirk. We believe that this bill will not only give legislators smart options to deal with what is becoming a huge portion of state's budget, but also promote healthier communities for tomorrow.

This study will cost taxpayers little but can potentially save them millions of dollars in health care spending in years to come. It may even save many of their lives and the lives of their family members.

We urge you to vote yes on HB 3260.

Yours respectfully,



Jim Houser, co-chair
Hawthorne Auto Clinic, Portland



Mark Kellenbeck, co-chair
BrainJoy LLC, Medford



*28696 S. Cramer Rd.
Molalla, OR 97038
Ph:(503) 651-3737 FAX: (503) 651-3882
sales@northwoodsnursery.com*

April 5, 2013

To: Oregon House Health Care Committee
From: Jim Gilbert, owner, Northwoods Nursery
Re: Support for HB 3260

Chair Greenlich and committee members,

My name is Jim Gilbert, owner of Northwoods Nursery in Molalla and member of the Statewide Leadership Circle of Main Street Alliance of Oregon.

I would like to express my support, and the support of the Main Street Alliance of Oregon, for House Bill 3260, which would allow the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study or contract with a third party to study options for efficiently providing healthcare to all Oregonians.

My nursery business in south Clackamas County employs about 35 full-time employees, whose health is very important to us. For many years we have paid for health insurance for our employees, a cost to our business that increases significantly every year. Because of the increasing costs of healthcare to Oregon businesses like ours, it is important that we look at all options to provide the best care for our employees and all Oregon residents.

A number of studies such as the one proposed have been conducted nationally and in other states. None, however, address the specific issue of their effects on Oregon patients, Oregon's economy, or Oregon's physicians and providers. With Oregon spending \$30 billion annually on health care, it is important that we use our money efficiently and effectively.

Innovation is a hallmark of our state and we have shown that we are willing to confront challenges that other states avoid. This legislation not only will give legislators smart options to deal with what is becoming a huge portion of the state's budget, but will also promote healthier communities for our future. This study costs taxpayers little but can potentially save Oregonians millions of dollars in future health care spending.

We urge you to vote yes on HB 3260.

Thank you.



April 3, 2013

**President's
Office**

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Portland, OR 97239-
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tel 503 494-8252
fax 503 494-8935
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**Joseph E.
Robertson, Jr. MD,
MBA**
President
robertjo@ohsu.edu

Mary A. Bianchini
Executive Assistant
bianchim@ohsu.edu

Dear Members of the House Health Care Committee:

I am writing to support HB 3260, legislation that authorizes the Oregon Health Authority to study options for financing health care delivery in Oregon, including a single-payer system.

As Oregon's only comprehensive academic health center, we believe there is significant opportunity to reduce costs and improve outcomes through rigorous analysis of what works – and what doesn't – in health care policy and practice. Some of the potential benefits of single payer are readily apparent – reducing overhead expense, eliminating uninsurance – but there are challenges as well. A thorough study should be conducted to bring all relevant issues to light. As a public institution committed to health care reform, OHSU has the resources in evidence-based policy and practice and health systems effectiveness to contribute expertise to this process if requested.

At this moment, the eyes of the nation are on Oregon for our innovative approach to health reform embodied in Health Care Transformation. We should continue to provide health care policy leadership for the country by closely studying a single-payer system for its applicability to Oregon. I encourage your support for HB 3260.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe E Robertson".

Joseph E. Robertson, M.D., M.B.A.
President



MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Mitch Greenlick, Chair, House Health Care Committee
Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chair, House Health Care Committee
Rep. Jim Thompson, Vice-Chair, House Health Care Committee
Members of the Committee

From: Bryan Boehringer, OMA Government Affairs
Courtnei Dresser, OMA Government Affairs

Date: April 5, 2013

Re: Support for HB 3260

The OMA supports HB 3260 as a natural next step in Oregon's health care transformation. This bill requires that the OHA conduct a study to recommend the best option for financing health care in the state through the examination of at least four financing options.

In light of the many concurrent reforms happening at both the Federal and state level, conducting a comparative health care financing study of existing and new financing strategies makes sense. The results of this study could serve to strengthen the existing CCO system and ongoing efforts of Cover Oregon as well as identify other innovative strategies to provide cost-effective care to all Oregonians. Oregon

The OMA believes that this study should be a robust and well-funded assessment. A comparative analysis of the four options (or more) as included in the bill will make the survey robust. The OMA is concerned, however, that without unbiased funders the survey results will not give Oregon viable financing options for cost-effective health care. The OMA would caution the committee and the OHA to consider how grants, gifts and other funds are solicited and accepted for this study.

The OMA encourages the committee to support HB 3260 and ensure that the study is not only robust but also and well and appropriately funded so that it achieves an unbiased analysis of health care financing options that best serve all Oregonians.

The Oregon Medical Association is an organization of over 8,100 physicians, physician assistants, and medical students organized to serve and support physicians in their efforts to improve the health of Oregonians. Additional information can be found at www.theOMA.org.



Testimony in Support of HB 3260

April 5, 2013

Carole Most RNc, MN, WHCNP

Chairs Greenlick and members of the committee:

Thank you for accepting my written testimony on behalf of the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) in support of HB 3260.

My name is Carole Most. I have been a nurse for over 35 years. Much of that time I have worked as a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner. Most of my NP career was spent at the Department of Veterans Affairs Portland Medical Center, where I was the Women Veterans Program Manager. I am mostly retired now, but for the past three years I have worked on call for the Marion County Health Department. I have been an ONA member since 1978 and I am currently the ONA liaison to the Health Care for All Oregon statewide coalition.

ONA represents over 13,000 registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, and nursing students in the state of Oregon. Not only do nurses make up the largest sector of the health care workforce, year after year nurses are voted as the profession most trusted by the American public according to the Gallup poll and their opinion is valued on providing affordable healthcare to all.

ONA joins the American Nurses Association in support of a comprehensive single payer health care system. ONA recognizes the extraordinary progress that has occurred as a result of the Affordable Care Act and Oregon's health care delivery transformation and wants to continue to build upon the progress we've made to ensure each and every Oregonian has seamless access to quality health care services. HB 3260 directs the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study comparing four types of financial structures and report their findings back to the legislature. This will ensure the legislature will have the information necessary to determine the best next steps for Oregon's health care transformation efforts.

The US spends an average of twice as much on health care per person as other western countries and we are the only industrialized country that does not provide universal coverage. I believe that health care is a basic human right and key component of a thriving community. I also know that we must have adequate financing in order to provide health care for all.

Despite the commitment of every nurse and health care provider to provide the best possible care to every Oregonian, it's simply not possible until every Oregonian has stable, continuous health care coverage and access. Even after Oregon's Medicaid expansion occurring as a result of the Affordable Care Act, many Oregonians will not have adequate health insurance to access the services they need to stay healthy. Nurses are on the frontlines of Oregon's health care system. As such we are in a unique position in that we have first-hand knowledge of the effects of the health care crisis and the struggles uninsured Oregonians face in seeking the care they need. I'm thrilled that Oregon is on the forefront of health care transformation, but I also believe insuring *most* Oregonians is simply not good enough.

The patients I see at the Health Department are often coming because they've lost their employment and thus their health insurance. When they present with a health condition which is not a funded part of the Health Department's mission, they're only recourse is the emergency room, urgent care, or a few limited options in the community. And I know, in my nurses' heart that many of them leave and do not attempt to access care for fear of the cost and other real and perceived barriers.

ONA supports HB 3260 because Oregon's nurses want our focus to be on helping our patients get well, not on what insurance plan they have or if the care they need will be covered. HB 3260 will help Oregon determine the most effective way to finance Oregon's health care system.

Many of Oregon's nurses became nurses because they want to touch lives, they want to make a difference, and they want to help keep their fellow Oregonians healthy and happy. Today, you may well make that kind of difference for a fellow Oregonian, a neighbor, or perhaps even your own family member. By voting YES on HB 3640, you have the opportunity to help Oregon build on our transformation efforts, provide affordable health care for every Oregon resident, but most importantly, please recognize that by voting YES, you might well be saving a life.



Oregon Public
Health Association

Oregon Public Health Association

818 SW Third Avenue, #1201, Portland, OR 97204
www.OregonPublicHealth.org

April 4, 2013

The Oregon Public Health Association (OPHA) supports HB 3260, requiring the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study to recommend best options for financing health care in state.

Fifteen other states and the federal government already completed over 25 studies to address this issue, but Oregon has yet to take a comprehensive look at options to finance health care in the state. This study has the possibility to provide information on how Oregon can achieve an effective, sustainable, and affordable health care delivery system available to all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Josie Henderson
Executive Director
jhenderson.opha@gmail.com

OPHA was founded in 1944 by a coalition committed to the promotion of public health in Oregon and was incorporated as a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit association in 2000. We are an affiliate of the American Public Health Association, the largest association of public health professionals in the nation. For 68 years, OPHA has been Oregon's public health leader, bringing together professionals and volunteers to speak and act for health in 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 conducted 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 with two co-sponsors, Senators Chip Shields and Laurie Monnes Anderson. The House hearing **is April 5th**; the 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."

This study will be privately funded. There is no cost to taxpayers.

Oregon Small Business Endorsement

Oregon needs a health care cost study. We join the wide spectrum of individuals and groups who support HB 3260. We call upon our legislators and Governor Kitzhaber to support HB 3260.

Business name: Looking Glass Books Date 28 mar 13

Signature: [Signature]

Address: 1118 Adams Ave LaGrande OR zip 97850

Phone: 963-8057 email: _____

Oregon Rural Action P.O. Box 1231 La Grande, Oregon 97850



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Business name: The Nickel Date 3-28-13

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: 112 1/2 Adams Ave LaGrande zip 97850

Phone: 503-963-6237 email: Busy@lagrandenickel.com

Health Care for **ALL** Oregon

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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 5th, if possible.

Please send this form and your replies back to HCAO: 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: Karen J Wagner Position Director

Organization: Oregon Rural Action Date 3/14/13

Address: 1119 Washington Ave, La Grande OR zip 97850



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Business name: Bubbles Laundry Date 3/27/13

Signature: *JK Santell*

Address: 2001 Adams Ave LaGrande zip 97850

Phone: 541-962-7578 email: mrubblesb@hotmail.com



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Business name: TMC ENTERPRISES / MT. EMILY PARTNERS Date 3/27/13

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: 63172 STARR LN, LA GRANDE OR zip 97850

Phone: 541.963.5462 email: TMC@EDNI.COM

04/01/2013

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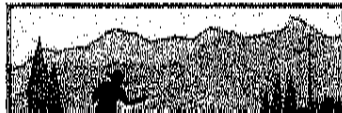
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FEDEX OFFICE

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PAGE

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April 5, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens is pleased to announce that it has unanimously voted to endorse House Bill 3260, which would require the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study that would result in a recommendation of the best option for financing health care in the state.

As President of the Board, I have been authorized to make that endorsement known to the public. I invite all those who are interested to visit the OSCRC's web site at www.thirdagepower.org. We hope to be posting all of our legislative recommendations there in the near future.

Steve Weiss
Board President
Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens

From: Rep Bailey [rep.julesbailey@state.or.us]
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 9:01 AM
To: s@samuelmetz.com
Subject: Re: health care study for Oregon

Sam,

Thanks for the advocacy. You should always feel free to contact me with input on bills!

This bill looks great, and I'll support it. I'll see what I can do to help get it out of committee.

Best,
Jules

Jules Bailey
State Representative, HD-42

March 19, 2013

Representative Michael Dembrow
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE, H-487
Salem, OR 97301

Representative Jennifer Williamson
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE, H-372
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representatives Dembrow and Williamson:

I want to express my support for Senate Bill 3260, which would allow the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study or contract with a third party to study options for efficient spending on healthcare in Oregon.

Because of the increasing costs of healthcare to the state, we must look at all financing options to provide the best care for our constituents. A number of studies such as the one proposed have been conducted nationally and in other states. None, however, address the specific issue of their effects on Oregon patients, Oregon's economy, or Oregon's physicians and providers. With Oregon spending \$30 billion annually on health care, it is important that we use the money in a financially prudent way, and get the most for our money.

Oregon has shown we are willing to confront challenges other states continue to shirk. I believe that this bill will not only give legislators smart options for what will be a huge portion of state funding, but also promote healthier communities for tomorrow. This study costs taxpayers nothing but can potentially save them millions of dollars in health care spending in years to come. It may even save their lives and the lives of their family members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ginny Burdick



March 17, 2013

Rep. Michael Dembrow
900 Court Street NE
H-487
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Strong Support for House Bill 3260

Dear Rep. Dembrow:

I will not be able to travel to Salem for the scheduled hearing on HB 3260. Will you please submit this letter into the record for me.

I strongly support the passage of HB 3260, authorizing the Oregon Health Authority to conduct a study and recommend the best option for financing health care in Oregon. I believe the study should be funded with private money, not taxpayer money. There are enough of us dedicated to having excellent health care for all Oregonians, to pay for the study.

I cannot obtain group health insurance for my employees this year, because we are too small, one employee is too old, and both employees have prior existing conditions. Even after portions of Obamacare go into effect January 1, 2014, we are unlikely to be able to afford adequate health care insurance.

Very truly yours,
DORA'S GARDEN LLC

Susan Isabel Boyd, Manager
P O Box 6
Union, OR 97883
(541) 562-5465

Support for HB 3260 from Liz Baxter, executive director of **We Can Do Better**

From: "Liz WCDB" <liz@wecandobetter.org>
To: "Peter Shapiro" <petershapiro@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 4:10:30 PM
Subject: HB 3260

Hi Pete,

Go ahead and add WCDB as supporting this bill.

Thanks -
Liz

Health Care for **ALL** Oregon

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Please send this form and your replies back to HCAO: 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: Allen Hallmark Position Designated Spokesman
Organization: Citizens for Peace & Justice Date March 16, 2013
Address: 1022 SE Belle Aire Dr. Grants Pass zip 97526

See: www.cpjmedford.org