

House Floor Letter

**FROM THE DESK OF
REP. MITCH GREENLICK**

HB 4109: Basic Health Plan Study Bill

March 3, 2014



The following groups urge your support of HB 4109, a study bill to explore the Basic Health Program option:

AARP Oregon; The Asian Pacific Network of Oregon; CareOregon; Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems; Elders in Action Commission; HOPE Coalition; Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates; Oregon Center for Public Policy; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Oregon Law Center; Oregon Primary Care Association; and SEIU. We have all worked together through the Inclusion, Affordability, and Innovation Coalition (IAIC).

Under federal law, states have the option to operate a Basic Health Program. HB 4109 is a study bill to explore that opportunity. Members of the Inclusion, Affordability, and Innovation Coalition (IAIC) support this bill. The reason is quite simple – we believe this provision of federal law ought to be reviewed, with Oregon specific data, to determine if this option will be a helpful and practical way to address affordability and inclusion issues for those under 200% of the federal poverty level, including legally present residents.

It is important to note that we do not have any preconceived notion that Basic Health will be the right step for Oregon. However, we believe this study will help the Oregon Health Authority and the Legislature to determine if it is a viable option. Many of those involved with IAIC would also commit to engage in the public process specified in the bill.

Thank you for your consideration, and please vote yes on HB 4109!

Submitted on behalf of IAIC by John Mullin 503-867-6236

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