

Chair Greenlick,

Regretfully I won't be able to give testimony in support of this bill which extends, for two years, sunset of provisions requiring the Oregon Health Authority to study and make recommendations to Legislative Assembly on best option for financing health care in this state.

The Affordable Care Act has expanded health care for the very poorest and sickest.

But the available health plans sold on the exchange cost shift to the patient with limited networks and covered benefits--much of which is not included in the out-of-pocket maximum. Small business owners are limiting more employees to less than full-time work to be able to pay their share of the premiums.

Moreover prices are not transparent. For most premiums costs based on co-insurance could lead to unaffordable care. This so-called "market" is just not working.

While I am a retired physician, my husband has been working as a physician at Kaiser Permanente since 1990. Both of us support a single payer system to finance health care. We donated money toward the study and hope the legislature supplements the necessary amount to finance this very important study so the important work can begin immediately.

To ensure quality health care that is affordable and accessible for all Oregonians, please pass this bill.

*Kris Alman MD*