

To whom it may concern-

My name is Chelsea Jennings and I've been an Oregon resident since 1991, and a registered voter in Oregon for almost 10 years.

I am deeply concerned about Referendum 301 and the title this ballot has been given. The proposed title does not at all address the impact that would be felt across Oregon if the Healthcare Protections Bill were repealed. The ballot title needs to explicitly state how large the impact would be, and how hundreds of thousands of lives would be affected. Voters have the right to know what they are voting on. Misrepresenting this referendum is reckless and does a disservice to Oregon voters like myself.

The ballot title should explicitly state how many people will lose coverage if HB 2391 is repealed. The ballot title should specifically list how many people stand to lose their healthcare, how much premiums could increase, and the reduction in insurer options we would see across Oregon.

Furthermore, without the provider assessment funds, we will have to make painful decisions about who keeps and who loses health insurance coverage here in Oregon. My mother, a 63 year old woman with an immune disorder and severe arthritis in her knee, was able to access healthcare through the Oregon Health Plan because of Medicaid expansion. Let me ask you, is my mother going to be one of the people who loses her health insurance if HB 2391 is repealed? Considering that pregnant women and people with disabilities are the only people protected from being cut under federal law, but adults who receive Medicaid under the ACA are not, it seems likely that mother will in fact be cut if this ballot measure passes.

So who's going to pay for her doctor's visits, that check to make sure her immune disorder has not progressed? Who's going to pay for her cortisone injections so she can walk without pain? And who's going to pay for the medications she takes so she can manage the symptoms of her immune disorder and not become bedridden? My mother certainly cannot afford to pay for these medical necessities out of her own pocket, so I'd like to know who will be paying. Is it Representative Parrish?

I'd also like to know if Representative Parrish is going to personally call each and every Oregonian who loses health insurance if this ballot measure passes and explain to them why they don't deserve healthcare. I think it's the least he could do. You can let him know my mother's name is Christine Jennings, and she can be reached at 541-232-7404.

Misrepresenting the scope of the threat this referendum poses is dangerous and unfair to those people whose healthcare is on the line. It's heartless and Oregon voters like myself will not stand for it.

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