

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express concern that the proposed title for R301 does not adequately address the scope of what the repeal of the Healthcare Protections Bill would do to the lives of hundreds of thousands of Oregonians. The health and well-being of hundreds of thousands of Oregon families is on the line with Referendum 301, and voters are entitled to that information.

Without the hundreds of millions in state funds and billions in federal dollars that the provider assessment secures, the healthcare of 375,000 Oregonians will be in jeopardy. The ballot title should explicitly state how many people will lose coverage if HB 2391 is repealed. Repealing the provider assessment will mean at least a 6 percent increase in premiums for more than 200,000 Oregonians who purchase insurance individually. The number of people who will see their premiums increase without HB 2391 should be included in the ballot title. Misrepresenting the scope of the threat is dangerous and unfair to those people whose healthcare is on the line. It's not only heartless, it's reckless.

Voters deserve to know that Oregonians risk losing their healthcare and paying higher premiums if they vote to repeal the key funding provisions of House Bill 2391.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Laurel Swerdlow, MPH