



March 21, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Health Care

From: Health Care for All Oregon

RE: Support of SB 237 with -1 amendment

**Staff**

**Linda Alband, Director of Operations, Portland**

**Larry Symonds, Development Director, Corvallis**

**Board of Directors**

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**Jim Robison**  
Portland

**Lou Sinniger**  
Eugene

**Charlie Swanson**  
Eugene

Dear Chairwoman Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee,

Health Care for All Oregon supports SB 237, which seeks to create consumer protections that ensure that patients living with chronic and life-threatening conditions have affordable, predictable out-of-pocket costs for the treatments they need. SB 237 applies the following requirements to state-regulated individual and group insurance plans:

- Each carrier must ensure that a pre-deductible copay is applied to the entire prescription drug benefit in at least 25% of individual and group plans offered in each service area and on each metal tier
- This copay-only benefit design must be reasonably graduated and proportionately related across all tiers of the plan's formulary
- If a carrier offers only one plan in a given metal level within a service area, that one plan must meet the requirements described above

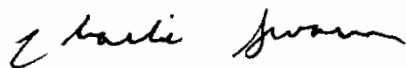
Health Care for All Oregon is a statewide coalition of 120 organizations and nearly 20,000 health care advocates dedicated to the creation of universal, publicly funded healthcare in Oregon. Until we reach that ideal, we support efforts to increase access, reduce cost and improve the efficacy of healthcare in Oregon.

HCAO hears stories regularly from Oregonians expressing how high drug costs, coupled with copays and deductibles, are creating difficult barriers to accessing healthcare.

Again, Health Care for All Oregon urges your support for the important consumer protections outlined in this bill which will ensure all Oregonians access to affordable, predictable out-of-pocket costs for the treatments they need.

Thanks for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,



Charlie Swanson  
Legislative Committee Chair  
Health Care for All Oregon-Action



Jim Robison  
President  
Health Care for All Oregon-Action



Benjamin Gerritz  
Vice-President  
Health Care for All Oregon



Lee Mercer  
President  
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