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TO: Chair Greenlick
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FR: Jessica Giannettino Villatoro, Political Director, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: HJR 203, Hope Amendment

The Oregon AFL-CIO, representing 300,000 workers across Oregon is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. Even when 95% of Oregon's working families have healthcare coverage, many of them struggle to afford that care – and far too many don't have access at all.

HJR 203 is a good first step to ensuring working families across Oregon have access to ensure their basic needs are met. They shouldn't have to choose between paying rent and seeking needed healthcare.

While healthcare security remains uncertain at the federal level, passing HJR 203 is a basic, yet important step for Oregon to continue our leadership on expanding access to care. The Oregon AFL-CIO and the Labor Movement have been steadfast and longtime advocates for economic, healthcare and retirement security. These are all foundational to building a thriving middle class and combatting rampant economic inequality. Additionally, the HOPE Amendment will continue the recent victories to ensure Oregon remains committed to healthcare access for all Oregonians, regardless of income.

The Oregon AFL-CIO respectfully encourages your support for HJR 203.