

The next weeks and months will be unprecedented in their disruption to our healthcare system. We will have healthcare workers working across hospitals, systems and in areas they are not licensed in. Patients will be getting care in unknown facilities, some of which may be made of a tent in a football field.

We must allow our healthcare workers to focus on their job and not on whether their labor will be compensated. We must give Oregonians the reassurance they will be cared for, regardless of insurance status.

My requests, specifically relating to healthcare policy are:

1. Please do all you can to help secure insurance coverage for every Oregonian, regardless of current status.
2. Please maintain every physician's wages at the monthly average prior to COVID-19 or 90% of the median or above for their specialty, regardless of billing/RVU production. Salaried work will allow physicians to focus on doing the right thing for their patients in the setting of a crisis.
3. Establish a universal reimbursement rate to facilities at the state level for Medicaid and at the national level for Medicare.

There are innumerable details to consider and these are three top priorities. Thank you for your consideration.