

Dear Members of the Universal Health Care Task Force,

We are from Bandon, Oregon and deeply appreciate the members of the Task Force on Universal Health Care volunteering to do this essential and historical work to bring health equity to all residing in Oregon.

**At this time when our nation is waking up to the need to live up to our historical values of equality and justice**, the "Purposes" to which all of you have committed could not be better:

- (1) Improving the health status of individuals, families, and communities;
- (2) Defending against threats to the health of the residents of this state;
- (3) Protecting individuals from the financial consequences of ill health;
- (4) Providing equitable access to person-centered care;
- (5) Removing cost as a barrier to accessing health care;
- (6) Removing any financial incentive for a health care practitioner to provide care to one patient rather than another;
- (7) Making it possible for individuals to participate in decisions affecting their health and the health system;
- (8) Establishing measurable health care goals and guidelines that align with other state and federal health standards; and
- (9) Promoting continuous quality improvement and fostering inter-organizational collaboration.

When at age 29 my mother became a widow with three children, our nation was there with Social Security to help make sure she and her children survived and thrived. We all went on to gain advanced education and return much back to our nation. I am confident those in need presently will do the same and our nation will thrive into the future because of your work.

Again, we thank each and every one of you for your commitment.

Jeannie & John Culp  
Bandon, Oregon