

"I am from \_Corvallis, Oregon. I very much 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. The "Purposes" to which all of you have committed could not have been better during this time of crisis:

- (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.

I worked in the medical laboratory field for 36 years, and saw first hand the ramifications of poor preventative healthcare, due to the inability of human beings in Oregon to afford routine preventative healthcare visits. Patients routinely were admitted to the hospital's expensive intensive care units with acute conditions such as strokes, diabetic comas, gangrenous limbs, and others, whereas they could have avoided these tragedies with inexpensive preventative care and medications. Please help establish affordable healthcare for everyone regardless of their income. Everybody in, Nobody out.  
Thank you for your service,  
Patrick O'Dell