

Task Force Members:

Why bother claiming you allow in person public testimony when you allocate a grand total of 10 minutes of your meeting to it?

Being as you do accept written testimony I will place in the record the same comments as I have made many times before:

1. There are a very large number of chronically ill people in Oregon not getting effective medical treatment. Providing them effective and comprehensive care will cost much more than is currently being spent for medical care for insured people, sincere claims to the contrary notwithstanding. Once they are "caught up" spending should decrease but that process may well take decades.
2. All universal medical care systems have some method of rationing care. Some methods are formal and rational, others are informal and often irrational. In no case can a system afford to offer unlimited state of the art medical care to all those who would want it. Particularly those who neglect their own health and fitness and then want the doctors to fix them.
3. Americans, especially wealthy ones will never accept a system that substantially hinders them from seeking medical treatment outside of a government system at their own expense.
4. There are very sensitive and often irrational moral issues at play that become non negotiable when public funding is involved.
5. The only way I see forward is to provide non-controversial preventative and accident care, particularly when children are involved. I would also advocate hospice care but that would probably create it's own fire storm. If we over reach as a state and attempt giving everything to everyone it will blow up in our faces and set the movement (not to mention the children) back generations. PLEASE DON'T!

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