

I understand that Oregon officials have been quietly meeting through an Ore. Task Force on Universal Health Care to propose a new Oregon income tax up to 15 percent to pay for these “free services” for illegal residents and others. We have not been informed through the media of “public meetings” this Summer when most people are on vacation. These hearings need to come out of the shadows so that Oregon taxpayers know what Oregon bureaucrats are trying to do at a direct cost to us.

Even the Bend paper, The Bulletin, criticized this task force for hiding this tax. They stated, “The State should be frank about costs for universal health care...The new income taxes that families will pay aren’t in the background documents for the meetings. (Bulletin Editorial Board, 6/15/22)

We cannot afford another income tax on top of the other taxes the Governor and Democratic controlled Legislature have forced on Ore. taxpayers. This kind of tax should be decided at the ballot box—not in a shadowy backdoor meeting. The tax burden is already too great.

Suzanne L. Penegor  
3187 Wolf Meadows Ln.  
Eugene, OR 97408