

March 10, 2021

To our esteemed representatives in the Oregon Legislature,

I'm writing to ask for your support of **HB 2164 – Cover All People**. As the largest provider of health and medical services in Southern Oregon, Asante cares for the majority of residents in Jackson and Josephine counties, many of whom are under-insured or uninsured.

The innovative pilot program, Cover All People, would provide health care coverage to medically underserved people including undocumented adults, DACA recipients, legal permanent residents and young adults who age out of Cover All Kids.

Oregon residents who are below 138% (190% for pregnant women) of the poverty level would be eligible, giving them improved access to timely, preventive health care, resulting in reduced health care costs borne by taxpayers.

Being uninsured disproportionately affects rural Oregonians, communities of color and low-wage working families. Health care coverage such as Cover All People is a tool that would help ensure better care outcomes among communities who are medically underserved.

As Asante supports health care access for those ineligible for current programs, we urge you to continue your commitment to fully fund the Oregon Health Plan to ensure access for more than 1.2 million Oregonians. This funding continues to support access to care for low income and vulnerable populations and support the hospitals and health systems who care for them.

Sincerely,

Scott Kelly

President and CEO

Asante