I am a proud immigrant and US citizen/resident of Oregon. As a State of Oregon Employee I have access to wonderful health insurance benefits that as a young, healthy, and active person have never had to use. Recently, during a routine check up, scans found a growth that has since needed multiple doctor consults, scans and tests. Currently I am still going through multiple appointments to determine the extent of the surgery I will require.

Throughout this nerve wracking ordeal, as someone who has worked in direct services for self sufficiency programs, I keep thinking of people who do not have the access to health care. The country I was born is a developing nation, yet has free health and free education. Why can't people in Oregon have the same access.to health and peace of mind?

I would never want any human to go through what I am going through right now, and have to worry about the doctor appointments, and charges to follow. Even with very little copays, the costs vary, I have no idea what the final charges are until weeks later and there are still more charges on top of insurance. Please, I beg of you, politics and party aside..access to FREE health care should be available for all of our fellow humans. We can make it happen. I would never want anyone else to worry about having a scary surgery and illness, while also not being able to afford to treat it. Please consider our own privileges and support all Oregonians to have mental peace. You never know when you need it.