

Submitter: David Still
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB704

As a retired Mental Health and Public Health Professional and Administrator, I have worked for more than 50 years trying to deliver positive, healthful services and develop community-based programs to serve a vulnerable, rural population in eastern Oregon.

I have seen "up close and personal" the devastation that is often caused by an ever increasingly complex, expensive, fragmented healthcare delivery "system." I won't take your time recounting the long list of inequities, complexities, injustices and lack of affordability that exist in our current profit-motivated healthcare "system."

It's getting harder and harder to tell the difference between the "non-profit" and "for profit" sectors. The "middlemen" of insurers, PBM's and other administrative barriers, add only complexity and increased COSTS to us as the consumers and also the providers of care. I don't believe you need to be convinced that Healthcare TRANSFORMATION is NECESSARY--but I want to lend my voice of experience to those who have worked so diligently to show us that there is a PATHWAY to this needed transformation--and SB 704 is it!

SB 704 is the NEXT step on the pathway to making the necessary transformation POSSIBLE here in Oregon. I strongly support SB 704's passage and full funding and ask for your support and VOTE to move it forward to final passage THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION. Time is of the essence. Without this type of system transformation, not only will many more individuals and families become overwhelmed with medical debt and bankruptcy--our state and economy will too.

We must make the recent codification of Healthcare as a Right in our constitution a REALITY! Vote yes on SB 704.

Respectfully Submitted

David B. Still
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