

Submitter: Lauri Hoagland
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB704

I am totally in support of SB 704. The people have spoken in Oregon regarding their definition of Health Care when Measure 111 passed last fall. They want affordable, clinically appropriate and cost effective care for all residents of Oregon. SB 770 Task Force has spent the last three years working on a plan that will do exactly that! The next step in this process is SB 704.

I have worked as a Nurse Practitioner in health care for the last 41 years. I have attempted to provide high quality care to every patient. This has been impossible to accomplish because of the many barriers that sit between the patient and the care they need. These barriers are complicated rules which affect each patient uniquely. The rule can be emergency only care where patients are forced to treat chronic illnesses like diabetes, epilepsy and congestive heart failure in the Emergency room when they are in crisis. It can be denial of insurance coverage of a medication, an important screening test or home health support after hospitalization. I cry to think of the many patients who were forced to wait for an answer from an insurance company or because they couldn't put food on the table and cover their deductible or because they couldn't see a specialist without a deposit. People are dying because of our current system. We can make changes!! Please pass this bill.