

Submitter: Diana Boss

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB704

I have worked as a primary care physician in Oregon since 2008. The current health care system is unsustainable and is failing to meet the basic needs of Oregonians. Many of the issues that are problematic to our current health care system could be improved with the implementation of a single payer system that would simplify the administrative burdens inherent in our current system. For example many patients have reduced access to care or delays in care due to prior authorizations, medication costs, and difficulty navigating overly convoluted insurance networks. As patients have changes in employment or other life circumstances, they often have delays in accessing care when they have to wait to get appointments with a new medical team simply because they have changed to a new insurance "network". As staffing of clinics has declined due to retirements and burnout from the pandemic, these wait times increase and the delays in care are worsening each year. Having a single payer system would increase access to care for everyone and simplify navigation through the health care system. Thank you.