

Submitter: Trevor Phillips  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure: SB704

Senate Health Care Committee Members,

My name is Trevor Phillips. I am testifying today in my individual capacity as a board certified Emergency Room doctor who has practiced in Salem Oregon for the past 15 years. I have cared for more than 30,000 community members during that time. I am writing today to emphatically support SB 704. More people need better care. I am grateful to practice in Oregon where 94% of residents have healthcare coverage and essentially 100% of children, but it's not nearly enough. I routinely care for patients who ration their care and avoid taking potentially lifesaving medication or delay critical procedures due to cost concerns. I have seen the harms of inadequate coverage all too often. It feels like we are living through an unraveling of the past models of healthcare coverage. Across this nation seeing patients in ER hallway beds has become a normalized occurrence. All too frequently critical recourses like inpatient beds are completely full. This impacts all of us by delaying care for everyone. The status quo of 3-5 years ago will never return. We need significant improvements like SB 704 to meet this moment in our history. Please vote yes for this lifesaving bill. Help all of us on the front lines of healthcare provide the best possible care to our patients. Oregon must codify "Healthcare is a fundamental right."

Sincerely, Trevor Phillips, MD

- Resident of SD-10 in South Salem