

Submitter: Melissa Stalp
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB704

Dear leaders,

Universal healthcare is paramount to saving lives. Our system is in dire need of a reboot. I am a nurse. I have no idea why we established our system to run like a business based on “market” pricing or behind closed doors negotiations with insurance companies. How do we “shop” around to get the best price when the prices are a mystery or we are hostage to the care that is closest to us?

People should be able to access preventive care - but they can't because of the shortage of primary care physicians (PCP) because why would you be a PCP when you can make more money as a neurologist? Then they can't afford PCP care because they don't have insurance. So then they end up in the ER or Urgent Care where we also jack up the prices because we have to treat their emergency.

Our system is failing us all around. These are just a couple examples. I could go on and on.

Other countries are doing it much more successfully (e.g. Great Britain, Germany). Article after article explains how we pour the most money (GDP) in the world into our healthcare and our outcomes are far from the best. It doesn't make sense. It is time for a change.

Thank you.