

Submitter: John Bock
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB704

SB 704 has a pre-determined outcome to pursue a state single-payer health plan based on assumptions of highly speculative administrative savings. It could drive providers from the state, and result in considerable tax increases. The state legislators should demonstrate clearly how the law will be successful for a complex entitlement program when there are serious problems managing unemployment, high taxation, forest fires, education or the state's economy. It is irresponsible to dig in deeper in a time of inflation. The majority of working people in Oregon already have healthcare through their employer, and persons of low income are already covered through the Oregon Health Plan Medicare coverage.

Through the years, the legislature has mandated coverage, which has driven the cost of insurance much higher for many. Now it appears the legislature wants to take over the entire choice of coverage and eliminate individual choice (and accountability for) in one's own health care decisions (possibly at the taxpayer's expense).

Oregonians should not be compelled to engage in commerce in which they don't want to participate. Universal health care takes away our fundamental right to choose how our health care decisions are made, and by whom.