

Submitter: Pete Lee, Vice Chair

On Behalf Of: Democratic Party of Oregon

Committee: Senate Committee on Health Care

Measure: SB 704

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, Esteemed Committee Members and Staff:

For the record, my name is Pete Lee. I am a lifelong Oregonian with an extensive background in technology and corporate strategy. For over 20 years, I have also served as a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician.

As the Vice Chair and DNC member for the Democratic Party of Oregon, I want to briefly emphasize that the **number one** Priority Legislative Action Item for Oregon Democrats has been health care that leaves no one behind.

I'll touch on just **one thing**: Fiscal Responsibility.

You may be familiar with Charlie Munger, Warren Buffett's long-time partner at Berkshire-Hathaway. In a 2017 interview with the editor of Yahoo Finance, he said the following about healthcare:

"The bad part is the Rube Goldberg system that arose by accident. There's massive amounts of excess cost. There's huge amounts of extending death so people can make more money, which is disgusting. There's a lot wrong with [the] system."

One more thing: Mr. Munger is a lifelong Republican. This transcends party affiliation: it's about human beings.

Freedom is letting patients, not insurance companies, pick who cares for them. Freedom is allowing healthcare providers to focus on patients, not arguments with their insurance companies. Freedom is making compassionate mental health care available in urban, rural and frontier Oregon.

I urge all committee members to pass SB 704.

I sincerely hope that you, your families, and the communities you serve remain safe, strong, and resilient.

Thank you all for the gift of your time.

Charlie Munger interview:

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/charlie-munger-says-single-payer-healthcare-solution-225404021.html>