

Submitter: Eleanore Lord
On Behalf Of: myself and my family
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB704

Public School Teacher... and a voice for my own generation and those that follow.

The story I offer is a story too common for the young working class of this country. As I pursue a job as a public school teacher, I face the fact that I will lose my coverage with OHP and receive healthcare that comes nowhere close in comparison.

I don't want to be lazy... I want to work hard... and don't even mind that my salary won't be as high as it should be for the honorable work I plan to do... but what I am infuriated by is the fact that if I choose to follow my career path, and I have another child one day, I will not have the same comprehensive coverage that I did while on OHP.

We should be rewarded for working harder, not have benefits stripped from us.

Everyone deserves affordable full-coverage health care.... Honestly I'd be happy to pay \$100 a month to pay into a plan that was as comprehensive and easy as OHP.. and I'm a healthy young adult who hardly ever sees a doctor... if we can't do completely free health insurance I think there should be option to "buy in" to Medicare for less than \$200 a month. I suspect there are millions of healthy citizens like myself who would be happy to pay this affordable rate if they got full-coverage... that means there could be millions of dollars to help fund this program each month .

and if people want to pay more for private health-care... let them! :) But free healthcare should be an option for all.

As far as a personal story..

I will say that OHP changed my life... it encouraged me to seek preventive care the few times it was needed, and let me have a worry-free pregnancy where I could focus on the care of myself and my baby without worrying if our needed services would be out of service.

the opposite of this is when my husband got kidney stones, and after paying \$120 a month for health insurance, we were served with a \$11,000 bill for our emergency room visit.

Everyone deserves free full-coverage health insurance... especially those who pay taxes!

I hope to be part of a generation that can be proud of our government and to feel like we are taken care of... free full health insurance would be a huge step.