Submitter: Cathy Webb

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure: SB1089

Submitter: Cathy Webb
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB1089

I write as a concerned citizen and advocate for Health Care for All in OR. I am hoping our model can lead the way for a national program to address the need for universal health care for all Americans. I wish to address a large gap in services for the middle class citizens of our state. As a 25 year healthcare provider in the field of Physical Therapy I witnessed many patients unable to qualify for Obamacare due to being over income but not "wealthy enough" to individually afford the cost of MD or other health care provider services.as a private payer

.
Adults and children with severe pain limiting function or developmental progress loaded the system with sicker and more complicated diagnosis when a critical event occurred. The suffering of patients unable to continue with "maintenance" or follow up check ups was unconscionable. . Many times I made recommendations for outpatient services after discharge from the hospital, knowing patients were unable to pay for medically necessary appointments.

In my own life as I was unable to afford outrageous premiums imposed in my early 60's when I had to retire. The only "bronze plans" available exceeded monthly premiums of $1000/month, with a $7000 deductible! Unaffordable to this middle class retiree that lived a healthy lifestyle!
No one should have to take unnecessary risks to their health due to inability to qualify for basic services.

Others have stories of how they don't qualify and the system MUST BE FIXED. I ask you, to be part of the vision of a single payer healthcare system. We must ensure the right for basic
healthcare for all Oregonians. It's the right thing to do!

Thank you for supporting Healthcare for all our citizens, and Please provide adequate funding for the staffing (including needed consultants) to allow the program to be successful.

Cathy Webb
La Grande, OR 97850