

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage, Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Elections, Ethics and Rules
Vote:	5 - 4 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Cannon, Gelser, Kotek, Greenlick
Nays:	Bruun, Flores, Maurer, Richardson
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/19 (Access sub), 2/21 (Access sub), 3/23 (Full), 4/30 (Full)

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Proposes amendment to the Oregon Constitution declaring that access to health care is a fundamental right of every legal resident of Oregon. Directs Legislative Assembly to adopt a plan expanding health care coverage. Refers the proposed constitutional amendment to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current health care crisis and the need for reform
- Impact of amending the Oregon Constitution
- Components of a health care benefit package
- Costs and financing
- Impact of rationing health care
- Proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Provides for individuals to purchase their own health care insurance.

BACKGROUND: On July 5, 2005 the Office of the Secretary of State received a certified ballot title from the Attorney General for initiative petition #40. The petition proposed a constitutional amendment, for the November 7, 2006 general election that would have amended the Oregon Constitution requiring the state provide access to health care as a fundamental right for every Oregon resident. Additional components of Initiative #40 included a directive that the Legislature adopt a plan to incrementally expand health care coverage so residents could regularly obtain effective, affordable health care and that the Legislature consider ways to: conserve and strengthen the existing health care system; conserve and strengthen the system of providing health insurance as an employment benefit; to encourage individual responsibility for health care; to maximize use of federal programs; to encourage efficient and effective use of expenditures; and to improve the health of every Oregon resident. Initiative #40 specified that the plan was to be adopted no later than July 1, 2009 and repealed on December 31, 2012

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.