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Thank you for serving in the state legislature. I appreciate the time and energy you put into making Oregon a better place for citizens and businesses. I'm writing about a piece of proposed legislation that has me worried – HB 2466, which addresses several items having to do with healthcare reform. Most of the bill just puts things into motion that were planned as part of the Affordable Care Act and I think that's good.

What's not so great is when exceptions get made that will create winners and losers as never intended or anticipated in the law. Specifically, the proposed bill acknowledges that in 2016 companies with 50 - 99 employees will move from the large group market to the small group market, which is planned. Unfortunately it also states that these companies could elect to stay in the Large Group market through October 2020, which is not planned and is bad.

If the bill passes in this form, insurance companies will essentially get to decide which large groups (of this size) to keep and which to send to the small group market. This will be ruinous to the small group market which would be swamped with these poor risk groups.

The current small group market is only about 168K lives and Oregon has about 250K people covered through companies with between 50 – 99 employees. Imagine if 125K people that insurance companies want to dump from their large group rolls come into the small group market.

It's exactly the kind of cherry-picking that healthcare reform was meant to correct and on a huge level. If my rates jump 30% that's money I can't spend on growing my company so I can one day have 99 employees. Please make sure the final version of the bill does not allow "pre-PPACA" or "transitional" plans!

Thank-you for your help,

Rob Sexton