LAURIE MONNES ANDERSON State Senator



02/07/2018

In my time at the legislature, Oregon has been at the forefront of changing the national health care delivery system to make it more effective, affordable and accessible. HJR 203 enables Oregon to continue to be a leader for the rest of the nation. Although 95% of Oregonians have health care coverage, still too many lack access to health insurance or can't access care because of high costs.

The recent election and public opinion polls shows a strong majority believe it is the government's responsibility to ensure that all residents have health care coverage. The HOPE amendment instills this value by preserving the right to health care in the state constitution.

As a public health nurse, I have worked with at risk and low income families who did not have access to health care due to a number of reasons. I saw Oregonians having to choose between paying their rent and getting care the care they needed when sick. This should not be the case. Additionally, access to preventative care will allow us to stop illnesses before they begin and keep Oregonians healthy. A healthy Oregon can build a healthy economy, a stronger educational system, and a safer community.

Thank you,

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, SD 25

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