

My name is Sharon Jones and I am writing concerning SB 770. I know that health care is an extremely complex issue and I thank you for looking at ways to remedy its problems. Our current system does need reform. My family has personally suffered greatly after the passage of the Affordable Care Act. Our healthcare costs have skyrocketed and our premiums alone now consume one third of our income. Our deductible is another \$5000 per person on top of that! I am concerned however about moving toward universal coverage. Here are my concerns.

1. Currently, doctors feel limited in making the best health care options available to their patients because of insurance limits etc.. How would a plan administered by OHA prevent the very same thing? How would true control and decision making be returned to care providers?
2. The OHA, as administrators of the plan would have control over what procedures are available to whom and under what circumstances. There should be a separation between the body who makes those decisions and the body who is financially responsible.
3. What guarantee is there that other requirements for coverage, such as compliance with certain medical procedures, would not be made?
4. Government should never mandate any medical procedure. How would informed consent and medical freedom be protected?
5. If we uncouple from other health care programs, how will Federal funding coming into our state be impacted? If there are funds lost, How would they be compensated for?
6. Would coverage be mandatory for all citizens? This coverage would be offered to all Oregon citizens, but if it is the only option available, it is not really an offer but forced participation.
7. I believe choice in our market place is essential to providing the best care, options and costs. This bill removes that competition in the marketplace.
8. Do we really want the role of government to include being a health insurance provider?
9. The emergency clause would disallow the citizens of Oregon a voice in what is a hugely impactful and important decision for their everyday lives.

Thank you for considering these points.

Sincerely,

Sharon Jones