

# House Joint Resolution 202

Sponsored by Representative GREENLICK, Senator MANNING JR; Representatives ALONSO LEON, FAHEY, GOMBERG, GORSEK, HELM, HERNANDEZ, HOLVEY, KENY-GUYER, LIVELY, MARSH, MEEK, MITCHELL, NERON, NOSSE, PILUSO, POWER, PRUSAK, SALINAS, SANCHEZ, SCHOUTEN, SMITH WARNER, SOLLMAN, WILDE, WILLIAMS, WITT, Senators DEMBROW, PROZANSKI, STEINER HAYWARD (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution establishing obligation of state to ensure every resident of state access to cost-effective, clinically appropriate and affordable health care. Requires state to balance obligation to ensure health care with funding of public schools and other essential public services.

Refers proposed amendment to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

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2       Whereas there are many components that contribute to good health, including the ability to  
3 respond to sickness, disease and injury; and

4       Whereas achieving the goal of living a healthy life is impossible without the ability to access  
5 health care; and

6       Whereas health care should be available to everyone; and

7       Whereas the lack of available health care is a barrier to opportunity, success and quality of life;  
8 and

9       Whereas Oregonians should not be divided between those who can afford to be healthy and  
10 those who cannot; and

11       Whereas Oregonians should not be divided between those who have hopes and dreams and those  
12 whose sickness, disease or injury robs them of their hopes and dreams; now, therefore,

13 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

14       **PARAGRAPH 1.** The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section  
15 47 to be added to and made a part of Article I, such section to read:

16       **SECTION 47. (1) It is the obligation of the state to ensure that every resident of Oregon**  
17 **has access to cost-effective, clinically appropriate and affordable health care as a funda-**  
18 **mental right.**

19       **(2) The obligation of the state described in subsection (1) of this section must be balanced**  
20 **against the public interest in funding public schools and other essential public services, and**  
21 **any remedy arising from an action brought against the state to enforce the provisions of this**  
22 **section may not interfere with the balance described in this subsection.**

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24       **PARAGRAPH 2.** The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the  
25 people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout  
26 this state.

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**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.