Submitter: walt bernard

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Health Care

Measure: HB4035

Chair Rachel Prusak, and members of the House Committee on Health Care
Re: HB 4035

Hello
I am writing to voice my support for Oregon HB 4035. I am a Physician in Springfield practicing for over 20 years, so I am 'in the trenches' of health care and see the difficulties and tragedies that many of our fellow constituents face due to the lack of affordable health care. There are many factors why a large segment of the Oregon population does not fit into our current categories of health care services in Oregon or cannot afford to participate in our current 'system' of health care administration. Whatever the reasons, No one person should be denied health care for lack of finances and no one should be an 'emergency room visit away from bankruptcy'. In addition, requiring private organizations to provide care at no or minimal cost leads ultimately to no, or little care to these segments of our society because the providers, hospitals, and other service providers avoid these categories of service for financial reasons when possible. Current complex systems in health care are a barrier to providers for offering quality and equal care, and lead to delayed, emergency, intensified, and more expensive care for all that is less likely to be successful for the patient.

The quality of life for all Oregonians depends on a quality and inclusive system of health care that is accessible financially for all. There are numerous studies that clearly demonstrate that affordable access to health care for all is cheaper in the long run and improves the totality of living conditions for all constituents within the served communities. I support and urge you to approve HB 4035 that will, if adopted, require the Oregon Health Authority to study and make recommendations for options to improve access to or lower cost of health care in Oregon.

It's the right thing to do.

Thank you

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