

Submitter: Tom Rafalski MD

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB704

I write in favor of SB704. I would write in favor of anything that removes barriers to health care. I am a hospital physician in Lincoln County, and I see on a daily basis the human and societal costs of lack of access to health care. It happens here. It happens in your neighborhood. I often see patients critically ill with preventable conditions, suffering which isn't seen on this scale in other countries with universal health care. I also see folks impoverished by medical costs, when corporate shareholders enjoy priority over public health. Universal health care not only makes sense according to plain decency, but it's also cost effective. There's the old adage "80% of health care costs go to 20% of the patients." This is often due to little or no preventative care for too many people. Please support health over profits.