I am both a professor who studies health systems and a person living with a chronic disease. As the latter, I have received good quality care in Portland but have literally been brought to tears in trying to navigate a needlessly complicated, fragmented payment system. My health care was interrupted for many months two years ago when I could not untangle and resolve a billing issue that had nothing to do with my willingness or ability to pay, simply a siloed system whose component parts weren't built to function together. Countless hours (in tears) were spent on the phone with numerous representatives. I have a PhD in health policy and found the system incomprehensible and impossible to navigate. It caused enormous distress and anxiety for me on top of the stress of managing the health issue itself. Additionally, as a public health professor, it is all the more frustrating since I literally research, study, and teach on health care systems that achieve greater equity, quality, and efficiency - all at a per capita cost savings. It is frankly inhumane to treat health care as a market good. We are the only industrialized nation that does so. Oregon, however, has been a leader in health care reform. We are a leader in standing up for values that promote the well-being of all in our state. I am greatly heartened to see our state leaders researching and pursuing the implementation of a single payer system, which has been demonstrated in numerous countries to achieve better health outcomes at considerable savings over time. Universal healthcare is not a radical, untested idea. It is a standard, beloved policy in every other wealthy nation in the world. Oregon has the opportunity to better care for its residents while demonstrating to the rest of the country that our country is capable of progress. It is long past due.