

Submitter: Julie Blackman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB704

As a native Oregonian who has also had experience with the national health systems of other nations, I strongly oppose SB 704.

While single payer systems work well in a number of nations, Oregon's track record on most social service initiatives has been sufficiently poor that I do not want to entrust the provision of my health care to any system imposed by the State of Oregon. It would be one thing for the State to OFFER an opt-in system. It is entirely unacceptable for the the State to impose one as the ONLY option.

Furthermore, I strongly oppose financing such as system on the backs of those who would prefer to retain their current forms of coverage. My taxes already contribute to the welfare of those who are unable to pay for their own health care. Further efforts to extract payment from the rest of us will not be popular. At some point, the State of Oregon needs to understand that the lopsided expansion of benefits, preferences and subsidies is not sustainable.

As to the suggestion that this system could replace Medicare, that's a total waste of time and, again, would be universally unpopular. Please don't waste further legislative time on this misguided undertaking.

Sincerely,

Julie Blackman