

Skylar Fate

1035 NW Conklin Avenue
Grants Pass, OR
541-471-4106

Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

February 16th, 2025

Letter of Support for Senate Bill 20

Dear Senator,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 20, which mandates the Department of Human Services to establish a program providing medical assistance to employed individuals with disabilities, regardless of income or resources. This bill represents a critical step in ensuring that all Oregonians, regardless of their financial situation, have access to necessary healthcare while maintaining employment and contributing to their communities.

For many individuals with disabilities, maintaining gainful employment can be a challenge, especially when access to essential medical care is contingent on financial limitations. SB 20 would remove unnecessary barriers, allowing individuals to remain productive members of society without fear of losing healthcare coverage due to their income level. By coordinating benefits with employer-sponsored insurance and structuring cost-sharing requirements within available funds, this bill offers a sustainable and equitable approach to supporting working individuals with disabilities. Additionally, this legislation aligns with Oregon's values of inclusion, equity, and opportunity for all residents. The ability to work and maintain healthcare coverage should not be mutually exclusive, and SB 20 ensures that Oregonians with disabilities are not forced to choose between their health and their livelihoods.

I urge you and your colleagues to support this bill and help create a more inclusive and equitable Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any additional information or if I can be of further assistance in advocating for this important legislation.

Sincerely,
Skylar Fate