

Submitter:

Mary Hennrich

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1531

Senator Patterson and Committee Members, I submitted "neutral" on this bill as I do not have enough information to react in any other way. As a Board member of the State's Universal Health Plan Governance Board that is as you know, is charged with developing the detailed plan for the Universal Health Plan for Oregon, I am wondering "why" this "study" should be done by the Oregon Health Authority, rather than the UHPGB.

The text says "study the feasibility of funding emergency medical services through a universal health care model." If this analysis is needed, which I don't deny it may be, I want to suggest that this "study" might best be done by the UHPGB staff within the timeframe specified in the bill--Sept. 15, 2027. As you know, the UHPGB is currently funded through the 26-27 Biennium. I am not speaking for the entire board or Board staff, but rather as an individual serving on the Board. I am suggesting that you talk with Dr. Mimi McDonnell, Executive Director of the UHPGB about her estimation of the current Board staff resources and the current suggested "timeline for this study." It just seems to me that since there is a current state funded board in the process of developing the Universal Health Plan, things like EMS might best be "studied" by the State Organization responsible for developing the comprehensive Universal Plan and financing. Thank you for considering my "initial" thought.

I will be meeting with Dr. McDonnell tomorrow and will alert her to my "testimony."

Mary Lou Hennrich

UHPGB Member