



House Majority Office

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U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, House Majority Leader Ben Bowman, Rep. Nathanson React to Governor Signing SB 951

SALEM, Ore. – Yesterday, Gov. Tina Kotek signed into law [SB 951](#). This legislation is the first time any state has banned the 'straw doctor' model, used by private equity firms and large corporations to extract money from medical clinics and control physician decision-making. Academic research has made clear that these corporate takeovers lead to increased costs, worse patient outcomes, and physician burnout.

In a [tweet](#) about the bill being signed into law, Sen. Elizabeth Warren shared, “When private equity owns your doctor, you pay MORE for WORSE care. Their priority is profit. @GovTinaKotek just signed into law the strongest protections against corporate profiteering in health care. Congress should follow and get private equity out of health care nationwide.”

House Majority Leader Ben Bowman (D-Tigard, Metzger, S Beaverton), a chief sponsor of the bill, shared the following statement:

"We spend more on healthcare than any other developed country, with worse outcomes. This bill prevents corporations from profiteering from our healthcare system at the expense of patient care and physician independence. Oregon has a proud tradition of keeping healthcare locally-controlled and affordable. This bill continues that tradition and provides a first-in-the-nation model to combat the corporatization of healthcare."

Rep. Nancy Nathanson (D-North Eugene), also a chief sponsor, added, “The consequences of business arrangements and contracts in health care are vastly different than for other industries. Health care isn't a commodity like cereal, a computer, or a car. It's health care. With this legislation, we're putting patients over profits.”

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