



## Senator Tim Knopp

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### **Bi-Partisan SharedCare Expansion Bill Signed Into Law**

**Salem, OR** –Governor John Kitzhaber signed [House Bill 2280](#) which expands health care and coverage certainty to Central Oregon residents. SharedCare is a community-based health improvement plan designed to provide small business owners in Central Oregon the opportunity to provide affordable health care benefits to their uninsured employees. HB 2280 significantly expands the number of employers that can utilize this service and allows employees that lose their job to continue paying for their SharedCare Health Plan. SharedCare is a service provided through St. Charles Health System, the Central Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (CCO).

“When communities come together to help fill the gaps on health coverage we all win,” Knopp said. “This collaboration between St. Charles Health System, our local CCO, and small businesses to find a comprehensive low cost way to cover uninsured workers represents the values that make Central Oregon unique. I couldn’t be more proud.”

The SharedCare or multi-care model was first made possible by the passage of Oregon [Senate Bill 862](#) in 2009 and has received support and oversight from the Oregon Office of Health Policy and Research. In this model, the costs of the plan are kept low because they are split between the employer, the employee and the community. HB 2280 was Chief Sponsored by Senator Tim Knopp (R-Bend/Redmond/Sunriver/Tumalo), Representative Jason Conger (R-Bend) and Representative Val Hoyle (D-Eugene/Junction City). It passed the House and the Senate on unanimous votes and was signed by Governor Kitzhaber on Friday May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Sen. Knopp was previously in the Legislature from 1999 to 2005 for three terms, including one as Oregon House Majority Leader, where he led the PERS Reforms of 2003 that saved taxpayers billions. He was appointed to the Education and Workforce Development and Health Care and Human Services committees for the 2013 Legislative Session. Tim was elected to his first term in the Oregon State Senate in November 2012. Senate District 27 encompasses the Central Oregon communities of Bend, Redmond, Sunriver, and Tumalo.

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