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Oregon House Votes to Secure Medicaid Funding

HB 2010 will preserve access to health care coverage for 1.4 million Oregonians

SALEM, Ore. – Today, the Oregon House of Representatives passed <u>HB 2010</u>, a critical measure that ensures ongoing funding for the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), the state's Medicaid program. OHP covers 1.4 million Oregonians, including more than half of Oregon children.

"One out of every three Oregonians rely on the Oregon Health Plan for their health coverage," said House Speaker Julie Fahey. "HB 2010 will help ensure that those Oregonians continue to have access to care and that our hospitals and providers have the resources they need to serve all Oregonians. Regardless of whether Congress cuts Medicaid funding this year, passing HB 2010 is the surest way to position us to accomplish those goals."

The bipartisan bill extends insurance and hospital assessments—key funding mechanisms that allow the state to draw down federal funds to continue delivering high-quality health coverage to children, families, and individuals across Oregon.

"We should be proud of the work we've done for Oregonians on health care," said Representative Hai Pham (D-HD36). "Today, 97% of Oregonians have health care coverage and Oregon's Medicaid program and delivery is held up as a national model. The 1.4 million Oregonians who receive their health care through OHP is a big part of that story."

"Medicaid covers nearly half of all births in this state, as well as 57% of children in Oregon. In addition, 42% of Oregon Health Plan members are people of color," said Rep. Andrea Valderrama (D-HD47). "That means thousands of parents, regardless of their income, have access to vital services like regular check-ups, ultrasounds, screenings for complications, nutritional counseling, and maternity services at many of

our community hospitals. Reauthorizing these resources is a commitment to protecting access to care for children, seniors, low-income families, and rural communities."

"While Congress debates cuts to Medicaid, Oregon is standing strong to protect OHP," said Rep. Lesly Muñoz (D-HD22). "Our state has led the way in making Medicaid work efficiently, ensuring healthcare access for 1.4 million people. Oregon won't back down when it comes to healthcare."

OHP's funding comes from a combination of state resources, including hospital and insurance provider assessments that bring in billions in federal matching dollars. Without HB 2010, these essential funding mechanisms were set to expire, putting critical healthcare services at risk.

HB 2010 extends the sunset dates for these assessments through 2032. The bill continues the hospital assessment program, the insurance provider assessment, and the intergovernmental transfer agreement with Oregon Health and Sciences University. Together, these funding tools support OHP, enhance hospital reimbursements, and stabilize the state's insurance market.

The bill passed the House on a bipartisan, 40-15 vote. It now advances to the Senate. For more information on HB 2010 and its impact, visit the <u>Oregon Legislative Information System</u>.

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