



OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

Salem, Oregon
Oregon State Legislature

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Senate Democrats Vote to Cover All People

SALEM – Today, the Oregon Senate passed House Bill 3352, the Cover All People Act. This legislation will expand affordable health care access to more Oregonians.

The Oregon Legislature has an exceptional history of expanding access to health care for Oregonians. In 1989, the Legislature passed the Oregon Health Plan. In 2009, the Legislature passed the Healthy Kids Act to dramatically expand health care access to children. In 2017, the Legislature approved Cover All Kids to ensure youth can access medical care regardless of their documentation status. House Bill 3352 expands on these policies by extending health care access to Oregonians who are over 18 years of age regardless of documentation status.

“Over the past year, it’s become ever more apparent and important that we must do all we can to provide Oregonians with the health care they deserve,” said Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward who carried House Bill 3352 on the Senate Floor. “When the most vulnerable among us can access health care, our whole state is healthier. Those who are currently barred from access to health care include essential workers, retail and food service workers, as well as parents and caretakers. Ensuring this community can receive timely treatment and vital preventative care will keep all communities healthier.”

Cover All People will make health care coverage available to people who are currently only able to access expensive emergency care. Accessing that emergency care can cause fear. Paired with the insurmountable cost of that care, many choose to go without the medical care they need. That can cause compounding health problems, and can inhibit one’s ability to access education, go to work or care for their loved ones.

In addition to expanding access to health care for currently ineligible Oregonians, House Bill 3352 directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to seek federal approval including waivers to maximize federal financial participation.

House Bill 3352 passed on a 17-11 vote. The bill now goes to the Governor for final approval.

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