



Office of Senator James I. Manning, Jr.

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Higher Quality, Lower Cost Health Care for Oregon

Senate Bill 1089 will combat price gouging from insurance companies by establishing a Universal Health Plan Governance Board to propose a new health care plan for Oregon by 2025

SALEM, Ore - Today the Oregon Senate passed [Senate Bill 1089](#), establishing a Universal Health Plan Governance Board, which will be tasked with creating a proposal to deliver quality health care to more Oregonians at a lower cost. This new health care plan will support families being gouged by health insurance companies.

“Right now, Oregonians are at the mercy of the insurance industry, forced to choose between vital medical care and paying their bills. The status quo is not acceptable. Our current system is immoral and puts Oregon families at risk. This Governance Board and the new plan they will propose will put people ahead of profits. Inaction is not an option,” **said Senator James I. Manning, Jr. (D - Eugene)**.

In 2019, Senate Bill 770 established the [Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care](#) to solicit input from the healthcare industry, employers, unions, and citizens in every corner of Oregon on how to implement a new, more effective health care system for the state.

A key recommendation from those meetings was to create a Governance Board with the directive to develop and oversee the implementation of a new universal health care plan in Oregon. The Governance Board’s plan should be transparent and accountable to the public and provide equitable access to person-centered care so Oregonians can make medical decisions based on what’s best for their health, not their ability to pay.

SB 1089 establishes this Governance Board responsible for presenting to the Legislature an actionable plan to implement universal health care by September 2026.

Improving access to quality healthcare is a key component of [Senate Democrats' 2023 Oregon Works agenda](#). SB 1089 is also a major priority of the Oregon Legislature's BIPOC Caucus.

SB 1089 is one of the hundreds of bills that Senate Democrats rescued by negotiating an end to the Senate Republican walkout. Thanks to Senate Democrats showing up, doing their jobs, and delivering results for the people of Oregon, SB 1089 now moves to the House for consideration.

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