

HB 2828 Push for Passage and Full Funding

The HCAO Legislative Committee would like every HCAO activist to contact (by email, phone, or in-person) their legislators (both your senator and representative) to urge them to support HB 2828, which funds and extends the dates for a health care financing study that was approved as HB 3260 of the 2013 session. For more information about HB 2828, see the attached document entitled Summary of HB 2828.

Make sure to identify yourself as a constituent, and thank them for their work. If you know of any bills that you like that they have supported, you could specifically thank them for that. If phoning, there is high likelihood you will be leaving a voice message. For it to be effective it needs to be short and concise. To that end it is recommend that you write out your message in advance of your call. A document with possible simple messages is attached, see Example Message to Legislators.

You should ask your legislators to contact the co-chairs of the joint ways and means committee, and to request \$400,000 to fund the HB 2828 study:

Co-Chair	Senator Richard Devlin
Co-Chair	Representative Peter Buckley
Co-Vice Chair	Senator Betsy Johnson
Co-Vice Chair	Senator Jackie Winters
Co-Vice Chair	Representative Nancy Nathanson
Co-Vice Chair	Representative Greg Smith

You should also ask them to contact other colleagues on the joint ways and means committee with whom they have a good relationship. You don't need to tell your legislator who these members are, but for your information:

[Senator Fred Girod](#),
[Senator Bill Hansell](#),
[Senator Rod Monroe](#)
[Senator Arnie Roblan](#)
[Senator Chip Shields](#)
[Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward](#)
[Senator Chuck Thomsen](#)
[Senator Doug Whitsett](#)
[Representative David Gomberg](#)
[Representative John Huffman](#)
[Representative Betty Komp](#)
[House Republican Leader Mike McLane](#)
[Representative Dan Rayfield](#)
[Representative Tobias Read](#)
[Representative Gene Whisnant](#)
[Representative Gail Whitsett](#)
[Representative Jennifer Williamson](#)
[President Pro Tempore Ginny Burdick](#)

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Of course, if any of these legislators represent you, alter your message accordingly. If you don't already know, you can find your legislators at <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/FindYourLegislator/leg-districts.html> This site will list your legislators (senate, house) and your federal representative (congress), and will give an email address and phone number.

You should personalize your message to your legislators, and you can use one or more of the points below to encourage them to support HB 2828:

- The legislature should find out what the best and cheapest way is to deliver health care to everyone.
- Current growth in health care expenditures is not sustainable. Any transition to a more cost effective system needs details that the study under HB 2828 will provide.
- The experience of other countries shows that subsequent growth in health care costs would likely slow dramatically with a system that meets the criteria of HB 2828.
- The recent PERS decision regarding retiree COLA's makes sustainable health care costs even more important.
- In addition to savings, the study can identify ways to improve health care equity, removing an important barrier to opportunity, success, and quality of life for too many Oregonians.
- Public employers would secure savings by reducing future increases in health insurance premiums that continue to rise much faster than general inflation. The savings would be available for other public purposes.
- A well-designed health care system could remove the burden of providing employee health care benefits from employers, making Oregon an attractive place to locate jobs. The study would quantify employer savings.
- Not funding the relatively small cost of HB 2828 due to tight budget issues would be penny wise but pound foolish. Sufficiently funding this study, so that a well-qualified team can do an excellent job, can save orders of magnitude more money for other budget needs in the future, in education, infrastructure, public safety, and human services.
- Studies of health care financing in other states commonly project that there are systems that can finance private delivery of health care to

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everyone and still save more than \$1,000 per person per year. That would amount to more than \$4 billion annually in Oregon. The savings would be spread among individuals, private employers, and state and municipal governments in Oregon, as well as in current health care and human services spending.