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## **Universal Coverage and Private Health Insurance: Are they compatible?**

Private Forum with T. R. Reid, Best Selling Author of “The Healing of America”

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by Vicki Fields

T. R. Reid, author of “The Healing of America” and writer/host of the PBS television special “Sick Around the World” will return to Portland July 27, 2015. The Foundation for Medical Excellence (TFME) and Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) will co-host a special session exclusively for friends of TFME on Monday, July 27, 2015. This is a hosted event.

Why would TFME host this event? TFME is often referred to as “Switzerland” on controversial policy issues, but we are committed to keeping Oregon’s leaders engaged in shaping innovative health policy. As is consistent with TFME principles, innovative thinking requires business leadership. Invited guests will be drawn from Oregon’s major health systems, health insurers, state government, businesses who purchase health insurance, and businesses who self-insure.

Since Mr. Reid’s last visit to Portland as the TFME Kitzhaber speaker in 2013, he became Chair of the Colorado Foundation for Universal Health Care. Mr. Reid believes Oregon is Colorado’s closest competitor in the race to achieve statewide universal care. TFME invited Mr. Reid to discuss with Oregon’s leaders in health care delivery, insurance, and business the greatest challenges this goal poses to any state.

This meeting will offer 30-40 selected guests the opportunity to hear a presentation by Mr. Reid and subsequent discussion by a panel of Oregon leaders from health systems and businesses. An open discussion with the audience will follow.

The topics of the presentation and discussion are:

- \* What are the goals of health care reform in Oregon: Universal insurance or universal access? What is the difference?
- \* Will health care costs go up or down with universal care? Who will pay more? Who will pay less?
- \* How will universal care change the role of insurers? Of providers? Of employers? How will universal care change Oregon’s business environment?
- \* Can private insurance, government health care programs, or both be expanded to achieve universal care?

Monday, July 27, 2015

7:30-8:00A Hosted Breakfast

8:00-10:30A Presentation & Discussions

Riverplace Hotel – Sauvie Island Room

Session will be facilitated by the new TFME President Timothy Goldfarb

RSVP your guest list by July 10 to Vicki Fields, TFME, [vfields@tfme.org](mailto:vfields@tfme.org)

Sponsored by The Foundation for Medical Excellence and Physicians for a National Health Program.