

Our Mission:
 Unite health care professionals, consumer organizations, caregivers and concerned citizens to advocate for improved access to quality, affordable and secure health care.

Visit our website at <http://www.oregoniansforhealthsecurity.org>

Profile of New Billboard in Salem: Legislative Call to Action

In Oregon last year--

Insurance company profits: \$57 million

Hospital company profits: \$265 million

Their profits are coming out of our pockets.

Legislators, what are you going to do about it?

Paid for by Oregonians for Health Security

Legislators were welcomed back to Salem with a plea from Oregonians statewide, "What are you going to do about our health care costs?" A new billboard on 12th and Unions poses the question.

"As we honor Martin Luther King today, I am reminded of his words about inequality in health care," says Smooth Carter, a health care activist, "Dr. King said 'Of all forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.'" Health disparity statistics in Oregon are staggering. 13.9% of African Americans have no health care, and 30.7% of Latinos.

"The skyrocketing costs of health care have increased the number of uninsured Oregonians and exacerbated these health disparities and are why Oregonians for Health Security has unveiled its 'Welcome Back Legislators' billboard," announced Maribeth Healey, Executive Director of Oregonians for Health Security.

"Oregon's elected leaders are in the position to solve the health care crisis in our state this session. Insurance and hospital industry profits are soaring and thousands of Oregonians can't get the health care that they need. There's something wrong with that picture," Healey continued.

For Oregonians without health care coverage, the health care crisis is very personal. "I work full-time, but

do not have health care coverage," says Joye Willman, a mother of four. "I am unable to access the preventative health care I need and only see a doctor when absolutely necessary. It is unfortunate that there are so many Oregonians like me."

Oregonians for Health Security and our allies are proposing legislative solutions including expanding the prescription drug purchasing pool, requiring insurance companies to have rate increases approved by a utility-style board and restructuring hospital rates. Visit our website to learn more.

Allies Include:

- AARP Oregon
- ARC
- CADO
- EMO
- Elders in Action
- MACG
- New Progressive Network
- OFNHP
- Oregon Action
- AFSCME Council 75
- Oregon ARA
- Oregon Consumer League
- Oregon Health Action Campaign
- Oregon Student Assoc.
- OSPIRG
- Rural Organizing Project
- SEIU Local 49
- SEIU Local 503
- Teamsters Joint Council #37 Retirees
- Tuality Healthcare

Weekly Dose

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Make Your Voice Heard!

Legislative Town Halls

Legislators schedule town hall meetings to talk with constituents about important legislation. Make sure to ask about health care when you attend a town hall. Click here to find a town hall in your community.

Health Care Committee Meetings

To the right is a schedule for health related committee meetings in Salem. To find out what is on the agenda, go to the Legislature's website. We are looking for volunteers to attend and monitor discussions in each committee meeting. Call 503-655-2793

Committee Schedule

Senate Health Policy

1 PM Monday and Wednesday
 Hearing Room B

Senate Human Services

3 PM Tuesday and Thursday
 Hearing Room D

House Health & Human Services

8:30 AM Monday and Wednesday
 Hearing Room D

Ways & Means Health and Human Services

To Be Determined