



COALITION OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS

Ballot Measure 101 Fact Sheet

What is Ballot Measure 101?

Ballot Measure 101 is a veto referendum on five sections of HB 2391, which was passed in the 2017 legislative session.

What exactly am I voting on?

The 5 sections that voters will decide on in January concern a temporary 2-year tax on many insurance companies, healthcare providers, and hospitals.

- Certain hospitals would be taxed .7%
- The Public Employees Benefit Board, Managed Care Organizations, and insurers would be taxed 1.5%

Why does the legislature want to tax these entities?

This will generate \$210 million in state dollars which will fund insurance for up to 350,000 low-income Oregonians through Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid). This tax also leverages matching federal funds and could generate an estimated \$1.3 billion for Oregon.

How does the legislature think this tax will help stabilize insurance premiums?

Twenty percent of the tax will pay for the state's reinsurance program, essentially insurance for insurers, which helps keep insurance premiums stable. For individuals on the insurance exchange, reinsurance reduced rates by 6% in 2018.

If the legislature already passed this, why am I voting on it?

Rep. Julie Parrish (R) of West Linn, Rep. Sal Esquivel (R) of Medford and Rep. Cedric Hayden (R) of Roseburg organized an effort to force a vote on these 5 sections. They are concerned that healthcare prices will increase for individuals, small businesses, students, and teachers because the bill states that insurers may increase their rates that are subject to the tax by up to 1.5%.

What is the argument in support of Ballot Measure 101?

Supporters of the tax say that up to 350,000 low-income Oregonians will lose their insurance if the tax fails, increasing emergency room visits and healthcare costs across the system. If the tax fails, Oregon will have to decide whether to reduce benefits for those on Medicaid, kick people off entirely, or attempt to find money from other funds.

Who supports and who opposes Ballot Measure 101?

The majority of entities that would be taxed by Ballot Measure 101 support the tax. Supporters include hospitals, AARP Oregon, and many more organizations. For a list of organizations in support and opposed, please see the opposite side of this fact sheet.

When can I vote?

Be sure to get your ballot in by January 23, 2018.

Public Health
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According to the "Yes for Healthcare" campaign the following organizations have signed on to support the Yes Campaign: AARP Oregon, AAUP Oregon, AFT-Oregon, AllCare Health, Alliance4Kids, Alzheimer's Association of Oregon, American Association of University Women, American College of Physicians Oregon Chapter, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, Basic Rights Oregon, CareOregon, Cascade Health Alliance, Central City Concern, Children First for Oregon, Children's Institute, Coalition for a Healthy Oregon (COHO), Columbia Pacific CCO, De Paul Treatment Centers, Disability Rights Oregon, Douglas County Independent Physician Association, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Euvalcree, Fair Shot for All Oregon, Family Forward Oregon, Forward Together, Health Care for All Oregon, Health Share of Oregon, Housing Alliance, Human Services Coalition of Oregon, IBEW Local 48, Independent Living Resources, Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice, Jackson Care Connect CCO, Jobs with Justice, Kaiser Permanente, Latino Network, League of Women Voters – Oregon, Legacy Health, Main Street Alliance of Oregon, NAACP Portland Branch, NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon, National Association of Social Workers – Oregon, National Organization for Women – Oregon Chapter, Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), Neighborhood Partnerships, Nurses for Single Payer, NW Oregon Labor Council, One Community Health, Oregon AFL-CIO, Oregon AFSCME, Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, Oregon Center for Christian Voices, Oregon Center for Public Policy, Oregon Consumer League, Oregon Dental Association, Oregon Education Association, Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals, Oregon Head Start Association, Oregon Health Care Association, Oregon Health Equity Alliance, Oregon Latino Health Coalition, Oregon Medical Association, Oregon Nurses Association, Oregon Patients Rights Association, Oregon Pediatric Society, Oregon Primary Care Association, Oregon School-Based Health Alliance, Oregon School Boards Association, Oregon School Employees Association, Oregon State Council of Retired Citizens, Oregon-PTA, Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon (OPSO), Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters, Partnership for Safety and Justice, PCUN – Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, PeaceHealth, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon, PrimaryHealth of Josephine County, Project Access NOW, Providence Health & Services, Rural Health Association, Rural Organizing Project, Samaritan Health Services, SEIU Local 49, SEIU Local 503, St. Charles, Trillium Community Health Plans, Tuality Health, UFCW Local 555, Umpqua Health Alliance, Unite Oregon, United Academics, United Seniors of Oregon, Upstream Public Health, Urban League of Portland, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, The Vocal Seniority, We Can Do Better, Western Oregon Advanced Health, Willamette Dental, Willamette Valley Community Health, Willamette Valley Physicians, and Working Families Party.

There are two Political Action Committees formed in opposition to Ballot Measure 101: Stop HealthCare Taxes PAC and Oregonians Against More HealthCare Taxes. These campaigns have not released an official list of organizations in opposition. According to Ballotpedia these two organizations are also opposed: Taxpayer Association of Oregon, Cascade Policy Institute.¹

¹Oregon Measure 101, Healthcare Insurance Premiums Tax for Medicaid Referendum (2018). (n.d). In *Ballotpedia*. Retrieved December 12, 2017 from [https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon_Measure_101,_Healthcare_Insurance_Premiums_Tax_for_Medicaid_Referendum_\(2018\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon_Measure_101,_Healthcare_Insurance_Premiums_Tax_for_Medicaid_Referendum_(2018))