

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. 2017-007

Proclamation Proclaiming Support for the Affordable Care Act.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Since the Affordable Care Act (ACA) was enacted in 2010, 95% of all adult Oregonians and 98% of children in Oregon now have healthcare coverage through employer-sponsored health plans, Marketplace plans, Medicaid and Medicare.
- b. Under the ACA, 2,070,000 people in Oregon are covered through employer-sponsored health. Their insurance coverage has expanded to include an end to annual lifetime limits; coverage until age 26; free preventive care; slower premium growth; and quality-of-care improvements through the 80/20 healthcare-to-administrative-cost rule.
- c. Because of eligibility expansion under the ACA, 159,000 Oregonians have gained coverage through Medicaid. Also due to Medicaid expansion, Oregonians with a mental illness or substance use disorder are receiving care, and Oregon is saving \$170 million per year in uncompensated care costs. Children, people with disabilities, and seniors can more easily access Medicaid coverage, and people with disabilities can access long-term services and supports, promoting community integration and providing an alternative to institutional care.
- d. The individual marketplace covers 131,167 people in Oregon. Improvements to individual market coverage brought about by the ACA include: no discrimination based on pre-existing conditions or gender identity; tax credits available to help pay for coverage; greater transparency and ease in comparing plans.
- e. Medicare covers 784,032 Oregonians. Seniors benefit from lowered costs for prescription drugs; free preventive services; fewer hospital mistakes due to incentives for hospitals to avoid preventable patient harms; and coordinated care between doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers.
- f. Insurance coverage under the ACA has mitigated health disparities for low-income communities, communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities; in Multnomah County.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

1. The success of The Affordable Care Act (ACA) in promoting and protecting the physical, mental, and behavioral health of Oregonians.
2. The current and persisting need for healthcare services in Oregon that are affordable, accessible, and non-discriminatory.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of February, 2017.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



By _____
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Sharon Meieran, District 1, and Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson, District 3.