

From: Olinick, Judy [mailto:olinick@middlebury.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 12:15 PM
To: Loring Starr
Subject: Universal Primary Care Hearing

To the Vermont State Legislature:

Respected Legislators:

I urge you to support universal primary care for everyone in Vermont. The single most important feature of healthcare should be that everyone, with no exceptions, has access to medical attention not only in emergencies, but on a regular, continuing basis. Regular physician-patient contact helps to establish a trusting relationship, promote healthy living habits, prevent illness and disease in many cases and catch disease and illness early in other cases, so that it can be cured or managed before it becomes more serious and harder to treat.

Universal primary care, available to all without worries about premiums, deductibles, networks, co-pays and other obstacles, will result in a healthier society and will ultimately lower the overall cost of medical care. Money will be spent directly on prevention and care and not wasted on insurance middlemen who take an enormous cut and provide nothing. It is simply not the case that we cannot “afford” universal primary care. Every other prosperous, modern country takes on the moral responsibility of providing healthcare for its people. We, as a state and its inhabitants, will have to work out the best way of organizing the finances; but there is no doubt that we can do it if we commit to it. This is a wonderful opportunity for Vermont to lead the way once again on what is probably the most important social issue here and now.

With thanks, best wishes and hope

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