

Vermont State Legislature
House Committee on Health Care
Public Hearing on Access to Primary Care
Thursday April 30, 2026 5-7 pm Room 11
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My name is Anna Carey a family doctor for over 25 years.

Let's face it !

Primary healthcare does Work.

As a family physician I know that access to timely care is essential.

Example: A 30 year old man slices his finger on a wire fence.

No insurance.... So he sews his wound with dental floss —
4 days later his finger and hand are red, swollen and painful.

He comes to my office scared.

The dental floss has come undone so is removed.

Wound cleansing, frequent dressing changes and antibiotics
fortunately save his finger and hand.

Now a personal story:

As a patient with Type I diabetes for 45 years,
my family NP recently saw me urgently for a toe wound.
She ordered x-rays which showed the toe bone was infected.
She has started six weeks of antibiotics
saving me from a toe amputation.

We all need access to primary care: farmers, doctors, teens, our elders.

House bill H.433 introduced by Representative Brian Cina, active member of this Healthcare committee, would legislate publicly financed Universal Primary Care.

H.433 would provide every Vermont resident with comprehensive primary care without premiums, deductibles or co-pays. By reducing administrative costs and focusing on prevention, Universal Primary Care would help control the healthcare costs that are driving upward school budgets and property taxes.

Incremental changes are NOT working. OneCare ACO went belly up after six costly years. State auditors testified that the Blueprint quality improvement model provides NO taxpayer savings. And can anyone explain what “broader referenced based pricing” really means?

Investment in Universal Primary Care **NOW** can save lives and money by treating people before their conditions get more serious and costly.

Thank you for your time and consideration.