

Tell your legislators: “Don’t break the promise of healthcare reform – keep your hands off our healthcare!”

ESSB 5905 would strip eligibility for state-funded healthcare for all part-time state, K-12 and higher education employees.

ESSB 5905 is unfair.



All state, K-12 and higher education employees who work less than 30 hours a week would lose state healthcare coverage. They would be forced into the state healthcare exchange where some would undoubtedly face higher costs and reduced benefits. Even with government subsidies for those who qualify, employees would still receive significantly less than the coverage part-time state legislators enjoy.

Legislators, who serve part time, would continue to get full health benefits from the state.

Part-time legislators would also continue to get dental, vision, life and long-term disability from coverage from the state.

Part-time state, K-12 and higher education employees would lose any existing state coverage and have to fend for themselves as these would not be available through the state health care exchange.

ESSB 5905 is irresponsible.

ESSB 5905 would enable state government to do what legislators and others have criticized private businesses for doing for many years: force employees onto government programs such as Medicaid or to fend for themselves in the private market.

As one legislator said in 2006 after looking at a State of Washington report on such employers: *"I think it's important that people, as taxpayers, know the businesses that are being responsible and the businesses that aren't."*

ESSB 5905 is unwise.

Many nurses, special education teachers, higher ed faculty members and other employees work part-time because of the nature and stress of their jobs, and to help fill specific needs in the organizations where they work. Rescinding eligibility for state health care coverage will make these jobs less attractive and **make it much harder to attract qualified and dedicated employees.**

ESSB 5905 breaks the promise of healthcare reform.

Existing benefits were part of the inducement that brought you into state service.

Over and over again, **one of the key promises made to workers all across this country** prior to, during and after passage of national healthcare reform was that if you like your current health insurance, you could keep it.

“If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan.”

– President Barack Obama, New Hampshire Town Hall meeting,
8/11/2009

“If you’re one of the more than 250 million Americans who already have health insurance, you will keep your health insurance.”

– President Barack Obama, Speech at the White House after the
Supreme Court decision on the Affordable Care Act, 6/28/12

ESSB 5905 is:

- **Unfair**
- **Irresponsible**
- **Unwise**
- **A Broken Promise**

Call the Legislative Hotline, 1-800-562-6000

Tell Legislators to keep the promise of healthcare reform and reject Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5905