

**OREGON ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS
CONGRESS OF THE MEMBERS
79TH ANNUAL MEETING
May 2, 2026
Resolution #4**

Introduced by: Grant Sutton, MS-2, OHSU

Title: Support for the use of federal health dollars by states for the funding of state-based universal health care

1 **WHEREAS**, existing OAFP policy “endorses universal access to comprehensive, affordable, high-
2 quality health care through single-payer legislation at the state level” as well as at the national
3 level, and

4 **WHEREAS**, existing AAFP policy affirms that health care is a basic human right and supports
5 universal healthcare, and

6 **WHEREAS**, mechanisms do not currently exist to allow states to access existing federal health
7 funding that goes to residents of the state, such as Medicare and VA funding, and

8 **WHEREAS**, there has been legislation introduced in the House and Senate since 2019 (currently
9 the State-Based Universal Health Care Act of 2025, S.2286 in the Senate and H.R.4406 in the
10 House) that would allow states to apply for waivers to use existing funding for federal health
11 programs for creation of a state-based universal healthcare system provided it offers universal
12 healthcare to at least 95% of residents and offers coverage benefits that are non-inferior to any
13 current federal program from which it diverts funds, and

14 **WHEREAS**, such legislation that achieves the above aims does not require any additional federal
15 funding, and does not prescribe the restriction of private insurance options, and

16 **WHEREAS**, according to a report on the estimated impact of H.R.1 by the State of Oregon,
17 “there will be a significant decline in plan members accessing benefits that are served under the
18 Oregon Health Plan” after implementation of changes to meet the requirements of H.R.1, and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Oregon legislature has expressed significant interest in creating a state-based
20 universal healthcare system with the passage of S.B.770 and has established the Universal
21 Health Plan Governance Board to create a framework for such a plan, and

22 **WHEREAS**, it is very likely that a plan for a universal health care plan for Oregonians created by
23 the Oregon legislature would benefit from the ability to apply for the use of funds allocated to
24 federal health programs to support the state-based universal health plan, and

25 **WHEREAS**, Senator Merkley and Representatives Dexter, Salinas, Bynum, Bonamici, and Hoyle
26 support legislation as described above, but Senator Wyden and Representative Bentz currently
27 do not, now therefore, be it

28 **RESOLVED**, that the OAFP support legislation that would allow states to apply for waivers to use
29 existing funding for federal health programs for creation of a state-based universal healthcare
30 system provided it offers coverage benefits that are non-inferior to any current federal program
31 from which it diverts funds and is not prescriptive regarding how states should implement such
32 a universal health care system; and be it further

33 **RESOLVED**, that the AAFP support legislation that would allow states to apply for waivers to use
34 existing funding for federal health programs for creation of a state-based universal healthcare
35 system provided it offers coverage benefits that are non-inferior to any current federal program
36 from which it diverts funds and is not prescriptive regarding how states should implement such
37 a universal health care system; and be it further

38 **RESOLVED**, that the OAFP direct its delegate to the OMA to advocate for the OMA to support
39 legislation that would allow states to apply for waivers to use existing funding for federal health
40 programs for creation of a state-based universal healthcare system provided it offers coverage
41 benefits that are non-inferior to any current federal program from which it diverts funds and is
42 not prescriptive regarding how states should implement such a universal health care system.