



House of Representatives State of Idaho

March 24, 2016

To: House Health and Welfare Committee

Dear Committee Members,

I would like to inform the committee I do not believe HB 644 and HCR 63 are the best option available to provide medical coverage to members of what has come to be known as the "gap population." Those working Idahoans who are too poor to qualify for insurance premium assistance on the Idaho Health Exchange and yet, who do not qualify for Idaho's Medicaid program through the Department of Health and Welfare.

I do not believe Idaho's current system of delivery of medical services, including Medicaid, the CAT fund, state premium assistance, etc... is effective, efficient, or sustainable. I am supportive of Medicaid reform towards the goal of a managed Medicaid program in alignment with the Idaho State Healthy Initiative program more commonly known as "SHIP."

I voted for the HB 644 and HCR 63 because it was the only option presented to me via the political system. I had to choose "something over nothing." However, my choice would have been to choose what I believe is the BEST policy.

I have respect for all House members who voted for HB 644 and HCR 63, including me. I will respect the workings of the interim committee. However, what I am unwilling to tolerate is inaction. I believe the propensity for inaction is inherent in HCR 63 since it does not authorize movement on the waiver until a vote is taken by the full House.

Therefore, I am submitting to this committee my resolve to vote against any rule or any bill, which comes before the House Health and Welfare committee in 2017 (other than the waiver) regardless of its fiscal consequences, until a waiver, brought forth from the interim committee is submitted to the full House for a vote.

I have listened to the pleas of Idahoans for real action on this issue and am willing to do what I believe is necessary to see they get it.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christy Perry".

Representative Christy Perry
District 11- Canyon County

Cc: House Majority Leadership
Cc: House Minority Leadership