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Topic: ACOs

Comment: I was sorry to read that opposition to OneCareVT is vociferous. I am a provider who has worked in private, public, academic, and independent settings in 7 states across this country, and I have lived and consumed health care in France where the care is universal, inexpensive, and of very high quality overall. I took a job here last year and relocated my family here because Vermont is moving toward a rational healthcare finance system, while the rest of the country is mired in the fee-for-service system that discourages quality improvement while managing costs, and has, at best, an ineffective record at access. Did you know that there are more uninsured children in Texas than the entire population of Vermont, including adults?

OneCare may not be perfect, but it is not experimental (in the sense that it mimics what works in other countries, within constraints), and it positions us to improve access by focusing on efficient quality and prevention, freeing up resources for basic care. As for the budget, as healthcare dollars transition into this model, yes, its budget will increase, but representing that to the public as if it is an increase in healthcare spending overall is misleading.