On Thursday, Congressman Blumenauer met with health care providers, hospital and insurance company executives, patient advocacy groups, and professional organizations, like the Oregon Ambulance Association, to discuss the implementation of health care reform in Oregon. Attendees discussed the effects of sequestration on funding public health, graduate medical education, and funding critical research at the National Institutes of Health. They also expressed concerns for policy alignment between the federal and state regulations, and the need for workforce investment and development to help increase access to primary care providers.

“To make this work right, there are up-front investments that must be made,” Blumenauer commented. “We cannot save money in this system by making careless cuts.”