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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Eugene due to an upsurge of symptoms from multiple sclerosis, a malady she's lived with for nine years. She arrived tired and sore, but willing to give her all (really all) to us. She dealt with waiting on stage for nearly 10 minutes for sound problems to be corrected. And even then the sound onstage was barely adequate.

To then have her performance ignored by so many must have been very frustrating. Her initial request to the crowd to shut up was cheered by many of us there who could barely hear her over the din. Only after it was ignored by the noise makers did she say more.

I was personally very grateful that she made it to Eugene and found the strength to do the show for us. I was personally very annoyed that she was so hard to hear. And I was personally very glad I stayed for her full performance.

I have heard plenty of performers over the years (Jackson Bowne and Bonnie Rait among them) admonish the crowd for being rude or noisy. Performance of heart-sung music is a give and take between musician and audience. It just doesn't work otherwise. Joules did the right thing.

The rest of the night was great, too. The Community Village did a great job.

I'm sorry you didn't stay, Kimberly. You talked yourself out of a rockin' night.

Tim Mueller
 Eugene

OFFSHORE MEDICINE

A new burgeoning industry in which Oregon could lead the way and from which

Oregon could also profit immensely is the creation of organized junkets to offshore medical institutions. Imagine a medical junket airport with its own fleet of medical transport aircraft busily accommodating thousands of patients per week? In a day where citizens must adjust to the outsourcing of every kind of job except medicine, why not turn the tables on them and rebel with our own outsourcing program? To achieve such a massive organized effort only one obstacle stands in the way: "Will insurance cover this?"

One would think that health coverage would jump at the chance to save up to 80 percent on major and minor operation payouts, but not so fast. The reason why we are in the "out of control" health care mess that has us ready to strike at work belongs to a lock-step system created by members of Congress who have succumbed to lobbyist bribery. Not only do we have laws that protect prescription drug monopoly we also have PPO and HMO compliance rules that force us to spend our insurance on the behemoth system within our borders to support this fleecing.

Many of us are now looking at ways to beat this nutty system. It is now smart to have dentistry done in Mexico and heart surgery done in India. Buy your prescriptions from Canada and fly to Taiwan for that transplant. The ultimate leverage though would be to organize a medical transportation hub. Then maybe the money grabbers would finally fall on their faces and rethink their obscene business model.

Woody Woodmark
 Eugene

Territorial

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