

bill actually has a chance of passing.

“I could dream up any bill that says this, that, and the other thing, but unless it has a chance of actually becoming law it’s worthless. Our bill actually has a chance of becoming a law,” Schrader said.

Schrader, along with the two other moderate Democrats, has faced sharp criticism from the left following the Sept. 15 vote. In a statement, Senator Bernie Sanders said, “I understand that the pharmaceutical industry owns the Republican Party and that no Republican voted for this bill, but there is no excuse for every Democrat not supporting it.”

Former US Labor Secretary Robert Reich tweeted on Sept. 15, “Two of the three Democrats who tanked the party’s proposal to allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices — Scott Peters and Kurt Schrader — together have received more than \$1.7 million in donations from Big Pharma. Follow the money.”

According to *The Oregonian*, Schrader inherited a fortune from his

grandfather, a former executive at Pfizer. Pfizer has donated the third-most money to Schrader and in total, pharmaceutical companies have given him over \$600,000 since 2007, according to non-profit research website OpenSecrets.

But Schrader denies that this influences his work in Congress, saying he’s been tough on pharmaceutical companies over his career.

“I just think my track record speaks to the other way. I’ve been pretty tough on those guys,” Schrader said.

He added that he takes “money from a lot of different groups,” and that he’s been “one of the

leaders in campaign finance reform.”

It’s still possible that Democrats could add drug price negotiation through a different committee before the full \$3.5 trillion package hits the floor later this fall.

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— REP. KURT SCHRADER

Schrader and the other moderate Democrats’ push back on the bill signified how difficult it may be to pass the reconciliation package altogether.

“I’m probably one of the more outspoken folks that are concerned about the level of spending envisioned in this reconciliation package overall,” said Schrader. “Why do we need to spend more money? I don’t get it. It’s time for business to step in and spend money. Pay people a good wage and start to produce some of the goods and services that are now in short supply.”

Two groups, the Polk County Oregon Democrats and Lincoln County Democrats, organized a protest at Schrader’s office in Lincoln City on Wednesday, Sept. 22. Organizers said the rally was “in support of lowering drug prices and the Build Back Better Reconciliation Bill.”

News tip? Contact reporter Joey Cappelletti at editor@keizertimes.com or 616-610-3093.

senior housing guide

 <p>Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community Keizer's Best Kept Secret</p>	<p>DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: Drive north on River Rd. Turn left on Wheatland Rd. Go 1.5 miles. On left side of road.</p>	<p>UNIT TYPES: • independent living includ. studio and 1-bedroom apartments, 2-bedroom cottages</p>	<p>MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$1,822</p>	<p>ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: yes</p>
			<p>AMENITIES: • Not-for-profit, Christian community serving all faiths • Pets allowed • No Extra Charge for a 2nd person • 24-hour nurse on staff for emergency response • 3-delicious homecooked meals daily • Van service for shopping & medical appts • Housekeeping • Great Social Activities • Church Services</p>	
<p>7693 Wheatland Rd N, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-393-1491 • www.willamettelutheran.com • e-mail: debbie@willamettelutheran.com</p>				

 <p>AVAMERE Court at Keizer</p>	<p>DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: From I-5, turn west on Lockhaven. Turn left at River Rd, then left on Claggett St. Immediately turn in driveway at left.</p>	<p>UNIT TYPES: • independent living apts • assisted living apts • rehabilitation, skilled nursing & long term care beds</p>	<p>MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$1,837</p>	<p>ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: yes</p>
			<p>AMENITIES: • Beautiful 5-acre campus • Family-like culture • Continuum of care to meet all your loved one's needs • Quality lifestyle for active seniors • Our assisted living is 9 years deficiency-free • WE ARE HERE FOR YOU. WE ARE FAMILY.</p>	
<p>5210 River Rd N, Keizer, OR 97303 • PH: 503-393-3624 x340 • CELL: 971-599-9484 • www.avamerecourtatkeizer.com</p>				

 <p>the Village at Keizer Ridge ASSISTED LIVING AND MEMORY CARE</p>	<p>DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: On River Road, one-half mile north of McNary Estates. Right on McGee Ct, take second driveway on left.</p>	<p>UNIT TYPES: • Assisted Living • Memory Care</p>	<p>MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$2,855</p>	<p>ASSISTED LIVING AVAILABILITY: Yes</p>
			<p>AMENITIES: • Individualized Care Plans • State-of-the-art theater • Raised garden beds • All day fresh gourmet dining • Life enriching, meaningful, stimulating activities • Resident created activity calendar • Courtyard walking path • More staff on hand 24/7 than other local facilities • Private & semi-private Memory Care apartments</p>	
<p>1165 McGee Court NE, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-390-1300 • www.VillageAtKeizerRidge.com</p>				

 <p>Emerald Pointe Senior Living Community</p>	<p>DIRECTIONS FROM KEIZER: On River Road, one-half mile north of McNary Estates.</p>	<p>UNIT TYPES: • Studio • 1 BR w/ deck or walk-in closet • 2 BR, 1 BA • 2 BR, 2 BA w/ deck or walk-in closet</p>	<p>MONTHLY RENT: starting at \$1,350</p>	<p>ACTIVE INDEPENDENT LIVING: yes</p>
			<p>AMENITIES: • Full kitchens in every apartment • Beauty Salon • Optional Meal Plans • Staffed 24/7 • Full Activities Calendar • Weekly Excursions • Special Dietary Needs Met • Coffee Lounge • Housekeeping • Community Room • Activity Rooms • Transportation to doctors, shopping, and more • Waist High Gardens • Walking Paths • Free WiFi</p>	
<p>1125 McGee Ct NE, Keizer, OR 97303 • 503-390-7700 • www.EmeraldPointeKeizer.com</p>				