





#### B B 2611

# Tracking and Reporting of Cultural Competency Continuing Education for Health Care Professionals

### Just Good Healthcare

Too many Oregonians face barriers to health care. Despite best efforts, those barriers produce significant variances in the health outcomes of differing communities. Ensuring that health care providers are equipped to effectively serve patients of all backgrounds and cultures has been shown to improve health outcomes. Training in cultural competency for all health care professionals ensures that together we can begin to remove barriers and build a more equitable, healthier Oregon.

### Oregon Needs a System for Cultural Competency Training

A system-wide approach for ensuring a culturally competent healthcare workforce does not exist in Oregon. It is time for our state to take a comprehensive approach to address this.

#### Bill Summary:

- Permits Licensing Boards to accept Cultural Competency CEUs
- Authorizes Licensing Boards to request licensees submit documentation of participation in Cultural Competency CEUs
- Requires Licensing Boards to report participation of Cultural Competency CEUs to OHA; OHA makes progress reports to the Legislature

### **Culturally Competent Care Improves Health Outcomes and Lowers Costs**

HB 2611 facilitates system-wide high-quality cultural competency training, which will improve the standard of care for all Oregonians. Increasing utilization of preventive care and effective management of chronic diseases will have the greatest impact on reducing cost in both the long and short-term. <u>Culturally competent care is crucial to improving outcomes in these areas.</u>

## Please Join Us in Supporting HB 2611 Good Medicine that is Good for Oregon

Decrease medical costs; improve provider-patient communication; increase rate of accurate diagnoses/patient compliance; decrease duplication of services; reduce emergency room visits.

Contact: Ty Schwoeffermann at 503.957.7731 tyschw@ulpdx.org or Ron Williams 503.490.413 ronaldwilliams@gmail.com

From the desk of Greg Matthews