

March 26, 2019

The Honorable Andrea Salinas
Chair, House Committee on Health Care
Oregon House

Re: HB 3165- School-based health service grants

Dear Representative Salinas:

On behalf of OCHIN, I would like to voice support for HB 3165 which would provide funding specifically for grants to evaluate the needs of student-based health centers. This would be an important step towards innovative and accessible health services in Oregon, beginning with the health of our children.

OCHIN is a healthcare technology nonprofit that helps provide community health centers and patients with health information technology in order to improve quality and access to care. We have an extensive history in providing successful technical assistance to rural and underserved communities.

We believe that thoughtful approaches to expanding capacity through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) is the best plan in strengthening Oregon's health network. Providing funding for school-based health centers is an important component of this process, and with this we can create channels to support additional technical assistance, strategic workflow engineering, as well as critical staff education. Given OCHIN's expertise in this field, we are confident that all are essential to providing quality care to our students.

We stand at the ready to support this effort with our health center partners and hope these grants will lead the way in expanding access using technology to provide equitable health services. For this reason and those illustrated above, OCHIN supports the passage of HB 3165.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Stoll
EVP, Government Affairs and Public Policy
OCHIN