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March 16, 2021

Representative Rachel Prusak, Chair Members of the House Committee on Health Care

Re: HB 2164 and HB 3352

Legacy Health is a major nonprofit health care provider in the Portland-Vancouver area and mid-Willamette Valley. We are an integrated network of care providers in over 100 primary care, urgent care and specialty care clinics, and seven community-based and nationally recognized hospitals. Ensuring all Oregonians have access to quality health care is a core value for Legacy Health and access begins with coverage.

Legacy supports HB 2164 with the -3 amendment as well as HB 3352. Renaming the Cover All Kids program to Cover All People, and expanding it to include medically underserved adults, regardless of their immigration status, is a significant step toward addressing health disparities within racial and ethnic communities and providing all Oregonians an equal opportunity to live a healthy and productive life.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted significant disparities in healthcare access and outcomes. Available data shows that communities of color are being disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, further emphasizing the need for every Oregonian to have health care coverage and access to care.

While Legacy urges your support to expand Cover All Kids to Cover All People, we ask legislators to also ensure that the Oregon Health Plan is fully funded, without cuts to enrollment, coverage or provider reimbursement. Having access to the right care, in the right setting, at the right time requires having access to the right provider. Only through fully funding OHP can we continue our work toward healthier communities and a healthier state.

Sincerely,

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Kathryn Correia President and Chief Executive Officer