

HB 2337 is an important piece of public health legislation. Racism is the underlying driver of many health disparities and it must be acknowledged and addressed in meaningful ways. Racism is pervasive and touches every sector. No institution or system that impacts the social determinants of health is exempt from this oppressive history and current-day reality. HB 2337 begins the work of acknowledging Oregon's racist history and contemporary inequities and makes resource investments in initial efforts to address health inequities among BIPOC folks in Oregon.

As a youth worker in my community, I understand the disparities our youth face when accessing health care or lack thereof, specifically our youth of color. Barriers such as documents, income, trauma/stress, mental health are exponentially more adamant within our communities of color yet do not get the care they need or deserve. I urge you to vote yes on HB 2337.