



February 24, 2021

The Honorable Anna Williams, House Committee on Human Services
900 Court St. NE
Salem OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 3039

Dear Chair Williams and members of the House Committee on Human Services,

Thank you for the opportunity to express Kaiser Permanente's support for HB 3039. Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve.

Kaiser Permanente is deeply engaged in and highly supportive of efforts to establish a strong and comprehensive electronic referral system for social services and a statewide health information exchange. Over the last couple of years Kaiser Permanente has been working internally and with health system, social service, and technology partners on the development of a closed loop social service referral system. Our active efforts in this area continue and we look forward to opportunities for further engagement with public and private partners to meet community needs.

We particularly appreciate the bill's attention to including representatives of organizations that advocate for communities that face health inequities in system development. We strongly agree on the importance of ensuring community information exchange efforts are focused on meeting the cultural and linguistic needs of all Oregonians. We are also highly supportive of the goal of determining how to best utilize data reported to inform policy decisions and the allocation of funding.

Sincerely,

Dr. Briar Ertz-Berger
Emergency Medicine Physician
Kaiser Permanente Northwest