

JOHN TEAGUE

March 29, 2023

Senate Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden and Members of the Committee:

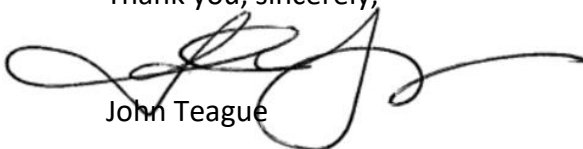
RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 1074

I am honored to be on the executive committee of the Community Business and Educational Leaders (CBEL) Collaborative in the boundary of the Salem-Keizer school district. CBEL and Fostering Hope Initiative have been successfully helping Salem and Keizer families become self-sufficient and neighborly. Much of the work with the families is done by Community Health Workers (CHW) who identify needs and treat them in the home and at the neighborhood level, building small communities of families in the neighborhoods where family and neighborhood have broken down. CHWs are able to do this work effectively and relatively expensively.

I persuaded CBEL to work with the neighborhoods that feed the Kennedy Elementary School. The neighborhoods struggled in recent decades, due in part to a lack of collective efficacy. As the police department and CBEL have worked with the neighborhoods over the past two years, we've seen improvements in public safety as evidenced by reduced calls for service and by improvements in family welfare as evidenced by personal testimony.

The program established by SB 1074 is a trial, which, I'm told, may allow for funding where there is currently very little. If the program proves to facilitate interventions at the least cost and as effectively as they are occurring now, I hope it will be replicated because families are being assisted to self-sufficiency and neighborhoods are becoming more neighborly, both of which are good for the families and good for Oregon.

Thank you, sincerely,



John Teague