

Submitter: Devon Lawson-McCourt
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4028

Honorable Members of the House Committee On Rules,

Today, I write to you to express my unwavering support for HB4028, an Act that promises to illuminate the path toward a more equitable and accessible healthcare system within our beloved state of Oregon. This legislation, with its clear mandate for the Oregon Health Authority to rigorously study the challenges our communities face in accessing healthcare, is a beacon of hope for those who have been left in the shadows by our current healthcare framework.

HB4028 is not merely a legislative requirement; it is a moral imperative. By directing the Oregon Health Authority to submit a comprehensive report on healthcare accessibility to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly by no later than September 15, 2025, this Act ensures that the voices of the underserved and overlooked are heard at the highest levels of governance. It acknowledges that understanding the depth and breadth of the barriers to healthcare is the first critical step toward dismantling them.

This Act stands as a testament to our collective commitment to uncovering the systemic inequities that plague our healthcare system. It is an acknowledgment that in order to build a healthcare system that serves all Oregonians equitably, we must first lay bare the roots of inequality that have for too long gone unaddressed. By commissioning this study, we are not only seeking to understand the scale of the challenge but are also laying the groundwork for transformative change that will benefit every resident of our state.

Moreover, the temporal nature of this Act, with its repeal set for January 2, 2026, ensures a focused and timely analysis, emphasizing the urgency of the issue at hand. This deadline signifies our shared urgency to address the disparities in healthcare access and the commitment to act swiftly on the findings.

In supporting HB4028, we are advocating for a future where healthcare is recognized as a fundamental right, not a privilege. We are championing a vision of a state where every individual, regardless of their socioeconomic status, geographic location, or background, has equitable access to the healthcare services they need and deserve. This Act paves the way for a healthcare system that is characterized by compassion, inclusivity, and justice.

I urge you, esteemed members of the House Committee On Rules, to support

HB4028. Let us take this crucial step towards understanding and, ultimately, rectifying the injustices within our healthcare system. Together, we can build a future where health and well-being are accessible to all, reflecting the very best of our values and our vision for a just society.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to the health and well-being of all Oregonians.