

Oregon Women's Rights Coalition

HB 2729-Support

Chair Neron, Vicr Chairs Dobson and McIntire and members of the committee:

The Oregon Women's Rights Coalition supports the expansion of and improved funding for school-based health centers or school nurse model. Funding has been stagnant over the decade so increasing awards would be optimal.

Planning grants for expansion would help some unserved areas prioritize student health.

As an example, Marion County shows that there is a school-based health center but there is only one. That center is at Chemawa Indian School, very limited coverage for the more than 80,000 Marion County residents under the age of 18.

Having medical and mental health services based in schools help student access. It also makes it easier for families as parents need not take time off work to help students access those services.

Please support these expansions.