

Submitter: Debby Jones
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB528

I am not against this measure but I do ask for caution as the ask does not seem to provide the important information of how money would be spent and how do ensure that there is not duplication. My area has been blessed to have a Health Equity Coalition in our area. I know they are doing good work but the opportunity for additional collaboration has been a struggle. Maybe I am missing something in the documentation, but from what I can find there are not an exact amount listed. The only fiscal information is adding 5 more coalitions and ensuring that they are appropriately staffed. Do we know through outcomes that our present Health Equity Coalition are successful and or do they need additional funding to meet their target outcomes before we add new ones? What is the sustainability for existing and new coalitions? This is a challenge for me as I see the primary prevention field and other areas within the behavioral health work force grossly underfunded. I believe that Recovery High Schools may be on the chopping block which very well may impact many of the young people that desperately need that program. Please consider how these financial asks can be structured so that accountability and collaboration are central focuses. Thank you for your time and attention towards my concerns.