

Submitter: Paul Smith
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB530

SB 530

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

I am writing to express my support for SB 530. My name is Paul Smith, and I am the Executive Director of Strengthening Rural Families. SB 530 is essential for ensuring that RHECs can continue their important work in reducing health inequities by providing the necessary funding and resources to meet the needs of underserved communities.

This bill will also provide annual budgeted inflation adjustments to RHEC funding, ensuring that the organizations can keep up with rising costs and continue providing the services that are so vital for community health.

I support this bill because sustainability is a key component to maintaining momentum in community-based efforts, particularly those that require an investment in time for relationship and trust-building. Keeping up with rising costs is essential to not carve into the funding that would otherwise be support for the direct work.

These resources will allow RHECs to continue to strengthen their capacity and extend their support to the communities who need it most. I urge you to vote yes on SB 530.

Thank you,

Paul Smith
Executive Director
Strengthening Rural Families