

Submitter: Maureen Hinman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB530

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

I'm writing in support of SB 530. My name is Maureen Hinman and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon School-Based Health Alliance. We have chosen to be a member of the Oregon Health Equity Alliance since its inception. Additionally, we do health assessments which include community engagement in school communities across Oregon, and when we do, we always try to involve the regional health equity coalitions. This is because they know their communities and where health disparities exist. In some communities it's specific racial or ethnic communities, and in others, it's folks that live far from the resources that the school communities offer. The point is, that there must be folks dedicated to understanding where disparities lie and working with the rest of the community and organizations like ours to address them.

SB 530 will allow the RHECs to remain sustainable over time. We have all experienced how the cost of inflation has impacted businesses and organization and seen how unpredictable the increases can be. RHECs need to be provided with funding that will keep up with the cost of doing business in our state so that they can continue to serve those most underserved and create a healthier, more resilient Oregon for all.

I urge you to vote yes on SB 530 and appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this bill.

Maureen Hinman
Executive Director
Oregon School-Based Health Alliance