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2/28/2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 530. My name is Mica Contreras, and I represent the Linn Benton Lincoln Health Equity Alliance. On behalf of all of the Regional Health Equity Coalitions, I want to express our full, unified support for SB 530.

This bill is simple: it ensures that R-HEC grants include budgeted inflation adjustments. These are not arbitrary increases. They are small increases that do not exceed what is available and what the agency allocates. These cost-of-doing-business adjustments are essential to the sustainability and effectiveness of our program.

Right now, our funding is stagnant while workloads grow. SB 530 provides the financial stability needed to drive lasting, positive change for health equity outcomes.

Thank you for considering this important bill. I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of SB530.

Sincerely,

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Mica Contreras Executive Director Linn Benton Lincoln Health Equity Alliance

