

Submitter: Elisabeth Hartner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB530

Hello,

I'm writing in support of SB 528. My name is Elisabeth Hartner, and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Public Health Association. SB 528 will provide critical resources to RHECs so they can continue reducing health inequities by identifying the most important issues impacting priority populations in underserved, rural regions of Oregon. By assessing these barriers through grassroots community engagement, they are able to uplift the voices of their communities to create effective solutions through policy and systems change.

The expansion of RHECs will ensure that priority populations across the state are getting their needs met. The Oregon Public Health Association supports this bill because the RHECs play a vital role in advancing health equity across the state. Advancing public health requires addressing systemic inequities, and by supporting the Regional Health Equity Coalitions, it helps strengthen local efforts to create a healthier, more equitable Oregon.

This resource is vital to our community and these resources will allow for an immediate increase in Regional Health Equity Coalitions capacity to support them. I urge you to vote yes on SB 528.

Thank you,

Elisabeth Hartner
Executive Director
Oregon Public Health Association