

Submitter: Marianne Freeborn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2010

I am a social worker at a nonprofit in Portland that works with families of children ages 0 to 5, especially single mothers. About 95% of our clients utilize the organ health plan, and I can confidently say that access to medical AND supplementary health care (such as the HRSN program) has benefitted clients and their children in significant, life altering ways. We know that the first five years of a child's life are fundamental in terms of development, yet this is one of the hardest times for parents facing barrier to care such as immigration status, mental health and substance use disorders, financial and housing insecurity, domestics violence, and more. OHP is one of the only reliable, consistent sources of care and access to care that the most marginalized folks in society have. Please utilize your power to propel this bill forward. One of my favorite things about the work that I do is seeing how many people from all different walks of life, across many fields come together to provide care. It's something that makes organ an incredibly special place, and I believe that this bill embodies that spirit. Thank you for your time.