



March 11, 2025

Dear Chair Nosse and the Members of the Oregon House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

I am writing today to express the Oregon Latino Health Coalition's strong support for House Bill 3650, which establishes the Latino Health System Task Force. As the only health policy advocacy organization in Oregon dedicated to eliminating Latine health disparities, we recognize the critical importance of this initiative in addressing the unique health needs of our community.

The creation of a health system which institutes and reflects Oregon's commitment to cultural humility and health justice is essential for ensuring that Latine individuals receive care that respects their cultural values and addresses their unique health needs. By establishing a task force with diverse representation from healthcare providers, advocacy organizations, and community leaders, HB 3650 ensures that the voices of the Latine community are heard and integrated into the development of this system.

Furthermore, the task force's focus on addressing social determinants of health aligns with our coalition's mission to eliminate Latine health disparities. As our team works statewide to increase access to health care through the Healthier Oregon program, we believe that this task force will work to address the quality of care that our community members will be receiving. This initiative will not only enhance healthcare equity but also contribute to the overall well-being of our communities.

We urge you to support House Bill 3650 and recognize its potential to transform healthcare delivery for Latine individuals in Oregon. This legislation is a vital step towards achieving health equity and ensuring that all Oregonians have access to culturally responsive healthcare.

Thank you for your consideration and commitment to the health and well-being of Oregon's diverse communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Olivia Quiroz", is placed over a light gray rectangular background.

Olivia Quiroz
Executive Director, Oregon Latino Health Coalition
On behalf of the Oregon Latino Health Coalition