

Teresa Keane  
10522 SW Boones Ferry Rd  
Portland, OR 97219  
503-452-0425

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TO: The Honorable Mitch Greenlick, Chair  
House Committee on Health Care

FROM: Teresa Keane, RN, MSN, PMHNP

SUBJECT: HB 2092 – Injury and Violence Prevention Program

Chair Greenlick and members of the committee, my name is Teresa Keane. I am writing to encourage you to support HB 2092, which would require OHA to establish and administer an injury and violence prevention program.

I have had the pleasure of acting as Chair of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, working closely with the staff of the IVPP, especially Lisa Millet. Lisa and staff are hard-working, dedicated and professional. I am continually impressed by the quality of their commitment to the citizens of Oregon.

HB 2092 would establish clear authority for the OHA to conduct population-based activities to reduce injury and violence. And conduct activities with partners throughout the state to reduce injuries due to accidents, suicide, homicide, and poisoning.

Injury is the third leading cause of death in Oregon, behind only cancer and heart disease. It is also among the leading causes of hospitalization. It is typical to consider some causes of death – cancer, heart disease, stroke – as mainly affecting older Oregonians. However, everyone is affected by injury, regardless of age, sex, or race. The good news is that injury is predictable and in many cases preventable.

The Injury and Violence Prevention Program is the primary resource in Oregon for state injury data. Staff routinely provides epidemiologic expertise, data, and technical assistance to individuals, agencies, policy makers, and other partners outside the program. Surveillance data have been used to determine the burden of

injury in Oregon; to assess the impact of policy implementation; provide analysis to prevention partners; to publish reports and research; evaluate injury outcomes and assess policy implications; provide information to the news media; and to guide policy initiatives.

IVPP collaborates with groups, organizations and agencies engaged in trauma and acute care, emergency medical services, chronic disease prevention, environmental health and the built environment, maternal and child health, school health, traffic safety, law enforcement, victim's services, and occupational safety to implement programs and policies aimed at reducing the burden of injury in Oregon.

I hope that you will support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.