



JOINT WAYS AND MEANS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Testimony in Support of SB 436 A – May 6, 2013

Paula Hester, Oregon School-Based Health Care Network

Co-Chair Bates, Co-Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Paula Hester, and I am the Executive Director of the School-Based Health Care Network, the non-profit that provides policy advocacy leadership, engages communities and their multiple constituencies at the local level, and leads SBHC program development using innovation and best practices. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 436 A on behalf of the Network of nearly 69 SBHCs across the state.

Our Mission is to promote the health and academic success of Oregon's children and youth. This mission:

- drives the expansion of school-based health centers in Oregon—currently with 63 state-certified sites;
- leverages best business practices for sustainability, billing and reporting outcomes—43% of SBHCs have Tier 2 or 3 Patient Centered-Primary Care Home status;
- improves the value of preventive, primary and mental health services in schools—47 centers offer on-site mental health care at least one day a week—and each medical visit includes prevention messages;
- and assists youth in finding their own voice to advocate for their personal health and the improved health in their schools and family homes—22 centers have Youth Advisory Councils actively participating in various elements of design and implementation of services.

We encourage you to support the fiscal needs tied to this bill to provide incentive dollars for CCOs to bring on support to implement the planning of integration of youth and children into the health assessment and transformation plans.