

May 1, 2013

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair
Senator Jeff Kruse, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services
Oregon Legislative Assembly

RE: HB 2134 and HB 2611

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice-Chair Kruse and Members of the Committee:

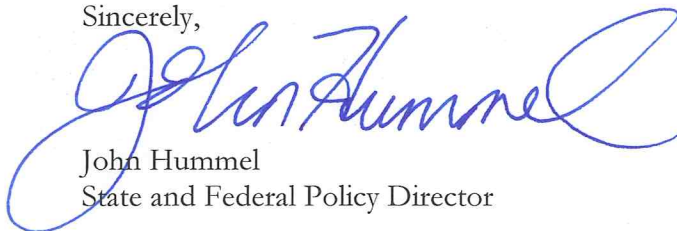
On behalf of the Oregon Primary Care Association (OPCA) I respectfully request your support of HB 2134 and HB 2611. OPCA is a non-profit membership organization comprising Oregon's 31 community health centers. Our members operate 201 health clinics statewide that provide coordinated care to 330,000 rural and/or medically underserved patients annually. Oregon's community health centers are medical homes that provide integrated and coordinated physical, oral and behavioral health services to our patients.

The best way to promote the Triple Aim goal of lower costs, better healthcare and better health outcomes is by providing the same high level of healthcare and human services to *all* Oregonians. However, in spite of good intentions and dedicated efforts, too many Oregonians are being left behind. This is because they are "invisible" to the healthcare system due to inaccurate and/or inconsistent data collection or they encounter barriers in their quest for health information as a result of providers not understanding their particular cultural background and needs.

A Yes vote on HB 2134 and HB 2611 helps advance the goal of eliminating avoidable health disparities in our quest to achieve the Triple Aim.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John Hummel
State and Federal Policy Director