

HB 2348A

The Association of Oregon Counties Supports HB 2348A

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for providing an opportunity to discuss the importance of public health as a driver in achieving the triple-aim and developing a vision of its future in Oregon. Public health in Oregon is truly a shared services system between federal, state and county governments. Together we provide resources to meet the needs and expectations of the public. The federal government provides funding along with the state through the Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division. The Local Public Health Divisions in the counties provide direct prevention interventions to residents and visitors, and clinical services to vulnerable populations.

Transformations

During the past three years Local Public Health Departments have been working diligently to support Health Care Transformation and the development of CCOs. Across the state Local Public Health departments have engaged with their local CCO to provide expertise around community-based prevention services and programs. While extremely challenging public health continues to adapt and change to this ever transforming landscape.

It is important to remember that local public health not only services the CCO population, but the community as a whole. Whether the services are tobacco prevention, immunization, tracking of infectious diseases, restaurant inspections, the built environment or contraceptive care, public health provides resources that make the community as a whole healthier.

Local Involvement

Counties have a long history of being actively involved in public health and take their role as the public health authority seriously. To that end counties across the state contributed approximately \$100M in county general fund last biennium. Additionally, the counties are constantly looking for innovative approaches to expand and enhance public health services.

Task Force

With this ever transforming landscape it is important to gather a group of experts to discuss and develop a vision for the future of the public health system in Oregon. AOC is satisfied with the composition of the task force and the requirement for deliverables

spelled out in HB 2348A. AOC would like to thank the leadership of Representative Greenlick and Senator Steiner Hayward while working as partners on this important issue. We urge your support for passage of HB 2348A. If you have any further questions, please contact AOC staff, Mark Nystrom.