

May 17, 2013

Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair and Committee
House Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Representative Greenlick, Chair and committee members,

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) supports SB 169 and bills requiring state agencies involved with diabetes to review and prioritize their efforts and develop action plans to reduce the burden of diabetes.

We commend the legislature taking the lead in the fight against diabetes and obesity in Oregon State thru HB 3486 and HB 3487 passed in 2007. SB 169 builds the previously supported legislation passed in Oregon and will strengthen the state's ability to fight diabetes in Oregon. HB3486 assess needs and gaps in services to develop a coordinated plan among existing services and those that are yet to be identified. HB3487 ensures all people with diabetes receive optimal care and addresses specific needs associated with reduction of body mass, cardiometabolic risk and glycemic control.

Diabetes now affects more than 800,000 Oregon residents.

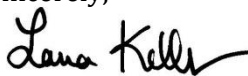
- In Oregon, 8.2% of the adult population has diabetes - about 241,000 people.
- **Over 1/4th of Oregon's kids are obese or at high risk for being obese, and for the first time ever children are being diagnosed with type 2 diabetes.**
- Over 65,000 people have undiagnosed diabetes.
- Over 500,000 people have pre-diabetes.
- Over \$1.4 billion dollars is spent a year on diabetes direct and indirect cost in OR.

If we do not do something about the growing epidemic the economic cost to Oregon will be crippling. Because of this, the American Diabetes Association strives to improve public policy as it relates to diabetes. This impending epidemic signals a need to implement coordinated efforts utilizing existing services as well as those that need to be developed to effectively meet this public health challenge.

The American Diabetes Association believes this legislation to create a Diabetes Action Plan for Oregon will provide a more balanced and comprehensive approach to address the costs of diabetes and influence positive public policy to reduce the social and economic burden of diabetes in Oregon.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at email: lkeller@diabetes.org or: 206-295-5532, or the ADA lobbyist, Elise Brown, at ebrown5722@comcast.net.

Sincerely,



Laura Keller
Director State Government Relations