



240 N Broadway Suite 127

Portland, OR 97007

Dear Chair, Co-Chairs and Members of the House Health Care Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Latino Health Coalition (OLHC) I respectfully request your support for HB 2626.

As you know, the Oregon Latino Health Coalition is a state-wide health advocacy organization that works to inform and shape health policy. We believe that school-based health centers (SBHCs) are vital to the wellbeing of all children in Oregon by improving access to affordable quality physical, mental, and preventative health services. In fact, in last year, 25% of SBHCs' clients served, reported that they were Latino. School-based health centers serve children who face health disparities and keep children in school and parents at work.

We know that SBHCs are essential to the health and wellness of Latino children who are geographically isolated to quality and affordable health care. HB 2626 will create opportunities for School-based Health Centers to open in high need areas where there currently is limited access to care for low-income families in general, and especially for those that face the greatest health disparities. We believe that all children should have safe and accessible health care.

We hope that you will join us in support of HB 2626.

Thank you,  
Linda Roman, Health Policy Coordinator  
Oregon Latino Health Coalition