



To: Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice-chair Kruse and members of the Senate Committee on Health Care.

From: Tricia Tillman, Director of Public Health, Multnomah County Health Department

Date: Monday, March 9th, 2015

Re: SB 663

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important piece of legislation. My name is Tricia Tillman and I serve as the Director of Public Health for the Multnomah County Health Department. First, I'd like to thank Representative Greenlick for his efforts and leadership on this issue. I'm here to express my support of the framework that the bill proposes and ask that you consider amendments that create a strong system of shared-governance. This work is an extension of the work of the public health task force and we are grateful for your leadership in prioritizing the work of public health modernization.

Multnomah County is committed to realizing a modernized system where everyone, regardless of where you might live, has access to effective and robust public health services. The assessment and planning framework that House Bill 3100 proposes creates an opportunity to transform our work for the better. In order for this transformation to be equitable and effective, collaboration across the system is imperative. Multnomah County and the Oregon Public Health Division have a strong history of collaboration and the proposed legislation is an exciting opportunity to continue to strengthen and grow in cooperation and coordination for greater public health impact.

The Task Force on the Future of Public Health Services recognized the importance of a strong system of shared governance in ensuring full implementation of the foundational capabilities and programs. We encourage a collaborative approach to further aligning the legislation with the vision of the task force by making clear that state and local public health officials are equal partners in informing both the policy-direction and investment strategy of a modernized system. **We support amendments that create, in statute, a venue where local and state public health officials can make these policy and fiscal decisions collaboratively.**

We look forward to continuing this work in partnership with the Oregon Public Health Division and Local Health Departments across the state to promote health where we live, learn, work and play. Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts. I am available and happy to answer any questions.