



SB 902 Testimony

Chair Monnes-Anderson and Members of the Committee,

My name is Maureen Hinman and I represent the Oregon School-Based Health Alliance, the membership organization for school-based health centers (SBHCs) across Oregon. We believe school-based health care keeps kids healthy, learning, and thriving and that is why I am testifying in support of SB902.

The focus of this bill is to bring together health care and education reform efforts so that kids and families are getting the best education and health services in ways that make sense and are not complicated. Health status and educational attainment are inextricably linked and it makes sense to coordinate the work of the organizations that are striving to improve both. Kids need to be healthy to learn, to be successful in life, and to grow into healthy adults. Healthy, educated kids will make communities healthier in the long run.

This bill removes the sunset from previous legislation that passed in 2013, SB 436. It provides a foot in the door for some of the smaller programs like SBHCs that may have a hard time getting a seat at the table of a larger entity like a CCO that has many priorities. It encourages an exploration of how resources at a community level can be maximized to create efficient delivery of services that will better reach families. The Oregon Health Authority [report on SB 436](#) reveals that the previous bill had an impact and CCOs have indeed begun collaborating with children's programs, but there is still work to be done. Your support of this bill will help to ensure that important work will continue and expand.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Maureen Hinman, Policy Director
Oregon School-Based Health Alliance