

**Kate Brown**  
Governor



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Testimony in Support of HB 4017  
February 5, 2016, Hearing Room E, 1 pm  
House Committee on Health Care

Chair Greenlick, Vice Chairs Nosse and Hayden, and Representatives Buehler, Clem, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, and Weidner:

The Oregon Commissions on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OCAPIA), Black Affairs (OCBA), Hispanic Affairs (OCHA) are actively supporting HB 4017.

This legislation will go far to mend the gap of health insurance coverage for Oregon's working families. We believe that all Oregonians should have access to affordable and accessible health insurance including nearly 1,500 Compact of Free Association (COFA) Pacific Islander adults.

HB 4017 makes provision for community members can work with the Oregon Health Authority to determine the best path forward for a Basic Health Plan which is a proven model for effective policy making and needed results. The nearly 90,000 Oregonians that fall into the federal poverty level gap between 138-200% are low-wage workers, legal permanent residents, and families. These individuals are financially vulnerable and at risk of not being able to afford health care. One of the key social determinants of health is access to health services which the proposed Basic Health Plan seeks to address.

HB 4017 is extends Oregon's coverage umbrella so all families can be successful in Oregon. We support the legislature and OHA in their resolve to find ways to cover Oregonians of all financial means.

We urge your positive consideration of HB 4017.

Mari Watanabe  
OCAPIA Chair

James I. Manning  
OCBA Chair

Alberto Moreno  
OCHA Chair

**OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs**

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