



March 14, 2017

COALITION OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS

Chair Greenlick and Members of the Health Care Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials (CLHO) I'd like to submit testimony in support of HB 3391, the Reproductive Health Equity Act. The Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials represents the 34 local public health departments that provide a range of maternal and child health services across the state including reproductive health. CLHO urges the committee's support of HB 3391.

With the potential repeal of the Affordable Care Act and Oregonians losing coverage and the over 48,000 women of reproductive age categorically excluded from Medicaid Oregon must take steps to ensure access to reproductive health. Local Public Health departments, along with Planned Parenthood clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers, are an integral part of the safety net network currently providing reproductive health including cancer screenings, contraception and sexually transmitted infection testing to women and families who don't qualify for Medicaid.

Access to reproductive health services saves money and lives. Unfortunately access to these services can be challenging for those who are not eligible for coverage due to a lack of staffing and resources in local public health departments. The coverage provided in HB 3391 would create greater access for women and families who need it most.

The Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials supports HB 3391 because access to a full-range of preventative reproductive services is essential to lifelong health and prosperity and for a healthier Oregon. We hope that you will join us in support of the Reproductive Health Equity Act, HB 3391.

Thank you,
Morgan

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