



**Testimony in support of HB 2310**

***Implementing Public Health Modernization***

April 7, 2017

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of House Health Care Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), I would like to express our support for HB 2310, to include the amendment encompassing Communicable Disease and Environmental Health Foundational Programs, Assessment and Epidemiology, Leadership and Health Equity Foundation Capabilities recommendations for 2017-19 implementation.

We as the local behavioral health system are aligned with the local public health system as we both redefine and expand responsibilities and expectations to improve health outcomes in our communities. We are often connected through a common county department or agency, and certainly behavioral health and public health intersect, especially in prevention and social determinants of health-related objectives. We support our public health system partners in their advocacy for adequate funding to effectively build the needed infrastructure at the local level and implement public health modernization.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and we urge your support of HB 2310.

Sincerely,

*Cherryl L. Ramirez*

Cherryl L. Ramirez  
Director, AOCMHP