



## ALEX CUYLER

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Intergovernmental Relations Manager  
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DATE: April 7, 2017  
TO: House Committee on Health Care  
RE: HB 2310, relating to the provision of public health services

Dear Chairman Greenlick and members of the Committee:

Lane County has been an active participant in conversations around public health modernization. We believe modernization is necessary to support health system transformation in the state and to improve the health of our communities. We continue to advocate for the necessary resources to achieve modernization and believe HB 2310, with amendments, will be a must pass measure for this Legislative Assembly.

We supported HB 3100 in 2015, yet found that measure to be somewhat problematic when it came to establishing a workable structure for the allocation of expected funding for each individual local public health authority.

As such we worked regularly with the Oregon Health Authority over the interim to explore better statutory language to ensure that the Legislature would appropriate a sufficient amount of funding for the evolving modernization work and that individual local public health authorities would be resourced appropriately given local conditions.

While we do not find that the introduced version of HB 2310 meets that criteria, we are hopeful that the coming amendments will address this. We have consistently requested:

- A mechanism within statute that ensures that if the Legislature fails to appropriate enough funding for modernization work statewide an individual local public health authority may transfer public health tasks to the state. This is consistent with existing legislative policies where state and local government are partners. Section 5 of the introduced bill allows for a transfer of responsibility, but we cannot recommend the legislature adopt this language without a triggering event.
- A formulaic allocation of whatever money is appropriated that ensures a base amount of funding for each local authority, with incentive based mechanisms a local authority would employ to realize additional resources. Section 4 of the introduced measure attempts this but remains unworkable.

We continue to wait on the amendments and will provide additional feedback to the Committee upon that review.

SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY