



NORTHWEST HEALTH
FOUNDATION

February 16, 2017

Dear Chair Monnes-Anderson, Co-Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our board, staff and grantees, we respectfully request your support for Cover All Kids, SB 558.

From our founding board president Senator Mark Hatfield, to our current board President Vanetta Abdellatif, our foundation's commitment to advancing health for everyone in our region has been steadfast. Since our founding in 1997, we've seen healthcare access expand to ensure nearly every child in Oregon has the health insurance and the care they deserve.

It's past time to ensure that *all* Oregon children do.

A safe, healthy childhood sets the stage for lifelong health. SB 558 extends the Oregon Health Plan to all children residing in Oregon up to 300 percent of the federal poverty line, giving them access to the preventative care that is essential for health.

But no child raises themselves. Families and communities play a critical role in setting a child up for success. And the right people to lead the outreach effort are the community members most affected by it. That's why SB 558 guarantees culturally competent outreach to newly eligible children and their families.

We hope that you will join us, and thousands of Oregonians, in support of Cover All Kids, SB 558.

Sincerely,


Nichole Mahler
President & CEO