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TO: Chair Greenlick
Vice-Chair Hayden
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Members of the House Committee on Healthcare

FR: Jessica Giannettino, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: *Support for Cover All Kids, HB 2726*

The Oregon AFL-CIO represents over 300,000 members in Oregon and is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. Everyday hardworking Oregonians go to work and send their kids to school worrying about what might happen if their child gets hurt or sick. HB 2726 would allow parents and children the peace-of-mind of knowing that they have the access to healthcare they need. We strongly believe that extending coverage to this community, up to 300% of the federal poverty line, is a critical step the legislature can take this session to ensure all families can thrive in Oregon.

We know that access to healthcare coverage is an economic determinant for future success. Access to health coverage results in lower high school dropout rates and an increase in college attendance and completion. HB 2726 ensures that on day one of school all children come into class healthy and ready to learn.

Additionally, HB 2726 guarantees culturally competent outreach to newly eligible children and their families which we feel is a crucial component for the program to be as effective as possible.

The Oregon AFL-CIO supports HB 2726, so that all Oregon families have a fair shot at success. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.