

## Testimony in Support of SB 558 February 21, 2017

## Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Senate Health Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials (CLHO), representing the collective interests of the 34 local health departments throughout Oregon who work every day to protect those in Oregon from the spread of disease and work to provide opportunities for health, we urge your support of SB 558. CLHO supports SB 558, providing the Oregon Health Plan for all children in Oregon.

SB 558 extends the Oregon Health Plan to all children in Oregon up to 300 percent of Federal Poverty Level. This important legislation will ensure that all children are covered and can get the early preventative care that will support life long health.

In Oregon, we've done a great job using all of the tools available to ensure that we continue to expand health coverage. Oregon took the opportunity to expand coverage under the Affordable Care Act to an addition 300,000 Oregonians. While covering 95 percent of the population in Oregon is laudable there are still holes in coverage, Oregonians who remain uncovered. Cover All Kids will ensure that children up to 300 percent of poverty are NOT one of the holes any longer.

The Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials urges the Senate Health Care Committee to support this important legislation.

I hope you will join local health officials throughout Oregon and support SB558.

Thank you, Morgan

Morgan D. Cowling, MPA Executive Director Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials



