



Supporting SB 28

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care:

The Oregon Environmental Health Association is writing in support of SB 28. Thank you for this opportunity to consider the local environmental health perspective on funding for the OHA Food, Pool, and Lodging Fees.

- Statute allows Local Public Health Authorities (LPHAs) to set their own licensing fees based on local needs, subject to approval by OHA if they vary more than 20% from the statutory marker fees.
- Fees have not been increased since 2003, and costs have increased significantly in the last 16 years.
- Unlike LPHAs, OHA may only charge the statutory marker fees when a county transfers oversight of environmental health programs to the state. In 2018 Wallowa County transferred public health authority to OHA. The current fees do not cover OHA's costs to implement environmental health programs in the county.

This bill addresses the problem of fee for service not covering costs and updating fees which affects LPHA's ability to charge appropriate fees in their jurisdiction. This mix of revenue from general funds and fees is necessary to support a sustainable program.

Thank you for your time,

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