



February 27, 2018

Co-Chairs Wagner and Smith, Members of the JWM General Governance Committee,

The Oregon School-Based Health Alliance (OSBHA) is a statewide nonprofit organization with a mission to strengthen school-based health services and systems that promote the health and academic success of young people. OSBHA has had the pleasure of working with the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office over the past several months to develop policy recommendations supporting health and well-being for Oregonians across the state.

Our work with the Oregon Advocacy Commissions has been both broad and thorough. We have explored how school health services expand access to primary care and behavioral health, including in rural areas where there are a lot of barriers to health services. In order to maximize existing funding and revenue we have mapped the flow of health and mental health service funding across the state. We have also been part of work groups and discussions with providers and administrators from many sectors on the strengths and gaps of current mental health service systems and to identify strategies for system improvement.

We have appreciated the thoughtful and inclusive approach that the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office brings to partnerships as well as the way that they search out expertise from often overlooked organizations and community representatives. Their contribution to our work and the work of the State in promoting the health and academic success of our youth has been very valuable and we look forward to continued partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie Hoyt Huffman".

Laurie Hoyt Huffman  
Executive Director  
Oregon School-Based Health Alliance