



March 12, 2019

Dear Chair Salinas, Vice-Chair Hayden, Vice-Chair Nosse, and Members of the Committee,

RE: Support for HB 2220, Dentists Providing Immunizations

Children First for Oregon urges support of HB 2220, to allow dentists to administer immunizations as part of delivering primary health care services. We think that this will help increase Oregon's immunization rates among Oregon's school-aged children and adolescents.

Children First represents the interests of Oregon's nearly 875,000 children and believes that together, with communities and leaders across the state, we can build a state where all children thrive. We work with our more than 110 partner organizations to identify and elevate legislative concepts that will support the needs of Oregon's children. HB 2220 is part of the 2019 Children's Agenda.

Dentists are an integral part of delivering primary health care services to Oregonians. As Oregon moves to a more integrated health care delivery system, utilizing dentists to provide preventive services such as vaccines makes sense.

In particular, we think this would help meet several of the goals of Oregon's 2015-2019 State Health Improvement Plan including:

- Increase the percentage of school-aged children who are vaccinated
- Increase the percentage of adolescents who complete the HPV vaccine series

Thank you very much for your attention and service. We request your support of HB 2220.

Sincerely,

Chris Coughlin
Legislative Director