

OREGON COALITION OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS

February 4, 2020
House Health Care Committee
CLHO Supports HJR 202

The Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials (CLHO) represents the 33 local public health authorities throughout Oregon who work to protect the public's health by preventing the spread of disease and promoting health. CLHO supports HJR 202, the HOPE Amendment.

HJR 202 would propose an amendment to the Constitution to ensure that all residents have access to cost effective, clinically appropriate, and affordable health care. The amendment would balance this right to affordable health care with funding for public education and other essential services.

Local public health officials work to ensure that the community environment, those factors outside of the health care system, supports health. That said, we also recognize that access to timely and preventative care is an important element to health.

Oregon has made huge strides in making health care accessible through programs like Cover All Kids, and Medicaid expansion; however, we know that 5-7 percent of Oregon residents are still without access to health insurance.

HJR 202 would be a powerful step moving forward.

We urge the House Health Care Committee to support the bill.

Respectfully submitted.

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

