

To: Representative Salinas, Chair
Representative Hayden, Vice-Chair
Representative Nosse, Vice-Chair
Members of the House Health Care Committee

From: Bill Bouska, Director Government Relations

Date: February 11, 2020

Re: HB 4161 letter of support

Intercommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO) coordinates the physical, oral, and behavioral health services to over 55,000 individuals in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. We recognize the significant value to actively supporting regional approaches that improve the system of services in conjunction with community partners. Our goal is to achieve the triple aim of better care, smarter spending, and healthier people at the community level. IHN-CCO and the Linn Benton Health Equity Alliance (LBHEA) have closely partnered together to develop a system so that everyone in our region has an opportunity to be healthy.

We support HB 4161 that will put into statute a definition of the Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHEC) and we strongly support ongoing funding from the state so that the RHECs are completely independent and are able to represent the health of all individuals in our community. Our partnership is one of mutual benefit and independence. IHN-CCO and LBHEA have developed a strong relationship that has increased our regions focus on health equity through; co-hosting regional summits on health, transportation, and housing; increasing the availability of traditional health workers; leading the development of a health equity strategic plan; and co-chairing and actively participating in multiple workgroups.

Please share in our backing for RHECs and HB 4161 with your supportive vote.