

Kate Brown
Governor



Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"
421 SW Oak Street, Portland, OR 97204
O 503.302.9725
Email: oaco.mail@oregon.gov

House Committee on Health Care
Testimony in support of HB 4161
February 13, 2020, at 3pm, Hearing Room E

Chair Salinas, Vice-Chairs Hayden and Nosse, and
Representatives Alonso León, Drazan, Greenlick, Keny-Guyer,
Moore-Green, Noble, Prusak, and Schouten:

The Oregon Commissions on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, Black Affairs, Hispanic Affairs, and Commission for Women, in their roles of policy advisors and advocates for under-represented communities across Oregon strongly support HB 4161 which defines the focus of the Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHEC), and defines the OHA role in providing grants and needed technical assistance and program planning. This bill will ultimately improve the supports and targeted outcomes of these important coalitions as they work on behavior health policies, programs, resourcing, and outcomes in their areas; both urban and rural.

The model of RHEC's is based on local communities across Oregon and their individual and collective abilities to effect change and establish efforts that successfully address long standing challenges, and cultural stigmas, through culturally accessible and appropriate models. HB 4161 more clearly defines the impacted communities, the role of OHA, and the work and funding of the RHEC's around historically underserved communities.

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions thank the House Committee on Health Care for expediting passage of this bill during short session as an important resource to all parts of the state and its citizens.

Sincerely,

Hussein Al-Baiaty and Mohamed Alyajouri
OCAPIA Co-Chairs

Jamal T. Fox
OCBA Chair

Imma Linda Castillo
OCHA Chair

Robin Morris Collin
OCFW Chair

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Mohamed, Alyajouri, Co-Chair
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Representative Carla Piluso

OR Commission on Black Affairs

Jamal T. Fox, Chair
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Legislative members:
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Imma Linda Castillo, Chair
Dr. Daniel López-Cevallos, Vice Chair
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OR Commission for Women

Robin Morris Collin, Chair
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