

Dear House Committee on Health Care,

I am writing today in support of HB3352 as I believe that health care is a human right, and Health Care for All Oregon Children should be expanded to include undocumented community members. We have seen COVID-19 affect our communities of color in significant ways and ways that are deeper than they've affected white community members. Lack of health insurance for undocumented individuals puts an additional disproportionate burden on communities of color due to the high costs of healthcare. When we are assessing our laws to determine whether or not they are equitable, we have to be willing to disrupt the status quo and make choices that ensure everyone in our community has access to the same opportunities and resources. We have seen how health care costs have risen and the economic burden on people without (and even to a degree on people with) health insurance is high. We need to create access to health care for undocumented communities by passing HB3352 and removing one of the barriers to helping our undocumented community members have access to health care.