## **HIVAlliance**

To whom it may concern RE: HB 3159

My name is Renee Yandel, and I am writing on behalf of HIV Alliance to express my strong support for HB 3159, the Data Justice Act. HIV Alliance provides care and prevention services in fourteen Oregon Counties including Marion, Lane, Douglas and Jackson. Preventing HIV infections is our mission and that requires us to be responsive to community needs and trends. In order to design effective strategies, we must have good data. We need to know if LGBTQ folks are experiencing disparities in access or care, HB 3159 will provide us with better information, so that we can use our limited resources in the most impactful way.

To take on the severe health issues that disproportionately impact BIPOC, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities and other underserved populations, we need more information. We are collecting little to no data on the identities affecting patient's health. Oregon must manage institutional racism in healthcare or social determinants of LGBTQ+ health. We cannot achieve health equity without achieving data justice. The Data Justice Act will empower Oregon to effectively address health disparities by asking providers to gather and share data with the Oregon Health Authority on patients' race, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

HB 3159 deserves to be considered by the House Committee on Health Care. I urge you to schedule these important health equity bills for a public hearing. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Renee Yandel

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