

To: House Committee on Human Services
February 1, 2022

Dear Chair Williams and members of the House Committee on Human Services,

Thank you for the opportunity to express our collective support for HB 4150. As community based organizations, cities, counties, local public health authorities, clinicians, insurers, and healthcare delivery organizations, we are supportive of and understand the critical importance of efforts proposed to establish a comprehensive and statewide Community Information Exchange. HB 4150 at its core instructs the Oregon Health Authority's Health Information Technology Council to convene the Community Information Exchange Workgroup to accelerate, support, and improve a secure and confidential statewide community information exchange (CIE).

Implementation of a statewide CIE in Oregon will allow community-based organizations, state agencies, health systems, county health departments, social service agencies, and technology partners to coordinate efforts to assess and address the social determinants of health for the people in our state. Systemic inequities and regionally variable availability and delivery of social and medical services in our state have long plagued many of the clients our organizations want to support. By passing this bill, the CIE workgroup will help inform a path for Oregon to be able to strategically and effectively implement a system that will dramatically improve delivery of coordinated services to the people in our community while increasing transparency and accountability for the investments we are making as a state. The CIE workgroup, with diverse representation and coordination with the OHA and the state is a necessary next step towards most effectively and equitably rolling out a statewide system and we ask for your support for HB 4150 to help underline the importance of this work.

