

Submitter: Glenna Hayes
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4035

My name is Glenna Hayes and I writing in support of HB 4035. During the last couple years we have been discussing equity and inclusion in many areas of services and community supports. It is now time for us to act on this in a way that impacts the people we support directly, which means improving access and supports to services. Many people with diverse identities, housing options, family dynamics have been struggling to access affordable healthcare. We need to study where the access and cost are barriers to low income communities. What comes to mind for me is how accessing health care is systemically traumatize for BIPOC communities and communities of people with disabilities. Our health care systems have a dark history of forced experiments, forced sterilization, racism, abelism, transphobia, and homophobia. We need to study why low income individuals/families are not accessing health care and how to improve it. Health care is a human right, it keeps our dignity in place and helps us maintain ourselves so we can be apart of community. Without access to affordable-accessible healthcare we are losing our elders too soon and people are dealing with chronic conditions that could get treatment. By passing this legislation we can begin to study the systemic barriers in place that prevent oppressed communities to accessing the health care they deserve.