

Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Testimony in Support of HB 4150

February 17, 2022

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Robinson, and Senators Kennemer, Lieber, and Sollman,

For the record, my name is Natasha Haunsperger, and I am Chair of the Oregon Commission for Women.

1. OCFW works toward economic, social, political, and legal equity for the women of Oregon with particular focus on marginalized and underrepresented women of color. We do this through advocacy, public policy research, leadership development, and partnerships.

2. In our statutory role of bringing equity focus and community voice into Oregon policy making, OCFW strongly supports HB 4150.

While our Commission is dedicated to advocating for and advancing the rights of women and girls in our state, health equity and health justice issues as outlined in HB 4150 directly intersect our mission. Therefore, the Commission for Women is strongly supporting HB 4150. Additionally, I have worked in the public service sector as a Portland police officer for 16 years, and it is the justice sector that I draw my experience and views from in relation to HB 4150.

Oregon Commission for Women

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Natasha Haunsperger

Vice-Chair:

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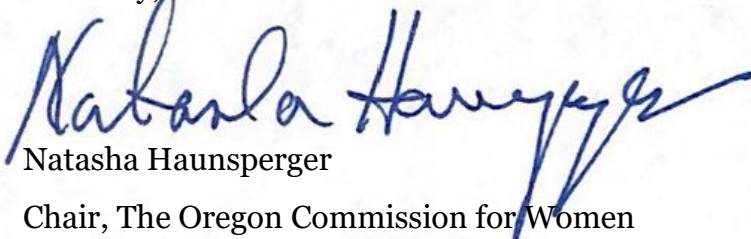
It is critical to continue supporting the groundbreaking work of the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) as their focus is on improving and enhancing overall information sharing processes and infrastructure across all health care and social service sectors statewide. As outlined in their strategic plan for health, the HITOC has already demonstrated and proved their commitment to innovation, equity, and inclusion of adequate and necessary stakeholders who directly contribute to developing, implementing, and monitoring such a health care strategic plan.

This strategic plan and advocacy by the HITOC stakeholders signal a need for more just, culturally responsive, and inclusive operability within the health care infrastructure that includes eradicating existing silos of sharing, collection, and analysis and allowing practitioners and consumers/patients to have increased ownership and shared responsibility of health care sector in general. We have witnessed such attitude changes and large-scale awareness and advocacy in the criminal justice reforms that continue to illuminate a path of social change and reduce gaps and disparities when accessing justice.

Continued support and recognition of the HITOC advisory group and its stakeholders would ensure that such institutional and cultural change is integrated and implemented. This new model elevates voices and demystifies the health care apparatus. I urge you to support HB 4150.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Natasha Haunsperger
Chair, The Oregon Commission for Women

