



February 17, 2022

Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chairs Breese-Iverson and Fahey, and Members of the House Committee on Rules,

**The Fair Shot For All Coalition supports HB 4157.**

We are deeply concerned about the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on our communities, who are disproportionately sick and dying during this pandemic. Oregonians who identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or people of color, women, LGBTQ+ and low wage workers are also disproportionately impacted by the economic fallout from this pandemic, and will feel the health and economic impacts of this crisis longer.

We believe the COVID-19 crisis has made even more obvious the many cracks in our systems that our organizations have been working to address for years. This crisis — and our approach to a recovery from it — provides opportunities to reflect on the policy decisions that put our communities in greater jeopardy and to create a different path and a more equitable state going forward.

The pandemic has not gone away but many of the supports that helped some of our communities survive are ending. Oregon should take action now to protect low wage workers who are struggling the most from falling through the cracks by passing HB 4157.

HB 4157 will give direct cost of living support payments to low wage workers who have claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit on their 2020 taxes. The bill will support Oregon's economic recovery and lift up communities across the state by providing one-time payments to over 260,000 low-wage earners to support working individuals and families.

We strongly urge your support of HB 4157 to give all Oregonians a fair shot at economic stability.