Submitter: Thomas Busse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB564

RHECs were only created in 2011, and the legislature really should re-evaluate the program. In fact, it became a national embarrassment when an OHA official administering the RHEC program delayed a meeting for which she wasn't prepared in an e-mail leaked to Reason magazine saying "urgency is a white supremacist value."

https://reason.com/2022/07/02/urgency-is-a-white-supremacy-value-oregon-health-authority/

Not only is this out-of-touch, it's just plain bizarre and probably an indicator there is a problem among health equity activists and the bloated OHA - that people who do this work live in a bubble. The e-mail also revealed the OHA was convening meetings for Regional Health Equity Councils (RHEC) to meet with Community Advisory Councils (CAC) in tandem with Community Investment Collaboratives (CIC) - that's a-lot of acronyms going on for what is effectively a taxpayer-funded system of doling out money to what is effectively a dependent political machine - aka the "nonprofit industrial complex." Who really benefits from all of this? If we step back - Oregon is overinvested in healthcare.

I'm also concerned that these are effectively government bodies who operate outside the public records and open meetings laws of the state.