

March 6, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

RE: Support for SB 606 – Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

Dear Chair Gelsler Blouin and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

Thank you for the opportunity to express Kaiser Permanente's support for SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities they serve.

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. Our community health efforts in the Northwest are working to make real and lasting change for the people who live, learn, work, and play here. Each year we partner with more than 150 local community nonprofit organizations who, like us, are deeply embedded in the mission of community health. We take pride in these collaborations and the opportunity to help build greater health capacity and sustainability in the region.

The Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act will help Oregon's nonprofits retain staff to continue providing essential services and promoting the well-being of all residents. Oregon relies on nonprofits to fill an essential role. Nonprofits promote the well-being of Oregonians day in and day out, providing for basic needs like food and shelter, offering opportunities for education and economic advancement, and so much more. Reducing administrative burdens and increasing financial supports for nonprofits and their workforce will help improve retention and respect the critical role they serve.

Senate Bill 606 also creates a Nonprofit Task Force to take a close look at streamlining and simplifying contracting, improving payment delivery, reducing burdensome reporting requirements, and raising nonprofit wages to improve employee retention in the long-term. Thoughtful consideration of these issues is merited.

Kaiser Permanent encourages you to support the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/

Elizabeth Edwards
Director of Government Relations
Kaiser Permanente Northwest