



**Urban League
of Portland**

Public Comment for the Health Systems Transformation SB 1580

As a community member selected to participate in the health systems transformation public process on metrics, outcomes, and efficiencies workgroup, I know firsthand how important it is to be a part of a transparent and inclusive process, which invited feedback and comments on every element of the health systems transformation plan.

The Health Policy Board had a very public process including public meetings throughout the state. Invited stakeholders made a considerable commitment of time and energy to design a system that works for all parties. That process is now being undermined by a new proposal.

The work that was put into the transformation plan and the public feedback was incorporated and changes were made along the way. A new proposal with very little time to invite public feedback is problematic.

We were happy to see that elements of Health Equity policy recommendations were incorporated throughout the plan. We did not get the firm mandates that we would have liked but we did see a commitment to Health Equity reflected by several recommendations for the new coordinated care organizations. Here are a few things that we advocated for throughout the year:

- Integration of community based culturally and linguistically appropriate services, mandates, guidelines and recommendations in health services.
- The opportunity to ensure the workforce development and credentialing of culturally-specific community health workers.
- Improved standards in data collection that disaggregate data by race, ethnicity and language.
- The need to address health disparities with a concrete plan for achieving health equity for ALL people in Oregon with specific metrics to hold the CCOs accountable.

There are still a lot of details to be worked out, and the policy board has made some commitments on those details that we are going to be watching carefully. We hope that we can get firmer commitments from CCOs to move forward with Health Equity policies that seek to eliminate health disparities.

But moving forward with another plan that has not had the public process and the investment the Governor and Health Policy boards plan has is not a good idea.

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