August 17th, 2020

To; CLHO Board

Fr: CLHO Legislative Committee

Re: ’21 Legislative Session Recommendations

Background

During the July Board meeting the Coalition of Local Health Officials reviewed and approved three priority issues – Public Health Modernization investments, Universally-Offered Home – Visiting phased investments and statewide tobacco retail licensure.

The goal was to approve the buckets and ask the CLHO Legislative Committee to further refine the specific policy and budget recommendations for the CLHO Board to approve at the August Board meeting. The CLHO Legislative Committee has begun using some specific questions to ensure that a health equity lens is using when reviewing and recommending policy and budget. The intent of the committee is to lead with equity when reviewing legislation and making recommendations.

Here are the recommendations from the CLHO Legislative Committee:

1. Universally –offered Home-Visiting

*The Legislative Committee recommends supporting the Oregon Health Authority Policy Option Package request of $5 million General Fund for a total $8.3 million Total Funds.*

The Committee additionally wanted to work with OHA to ensure that Race, Ethnicity, Alternative Language and Disability (REALD) information was collected in the program to ensure this program is serving all Oregonians.

1. Public Health Modernization

*The Legislative Committee recommends supporting the Oregon Health Authority Policy Option Package budget request of $69 million General Fund to support funding for Local Public Health Authorities, Tribes, Community – Based Organizations, and the Public Health Division.* In addition, the committee recommends working with legislators and OHA to update the date in law for the modernization plans.

Funding will support Communicable Disease and Environmental Health foundational capabilities and emergency preparedness and response, assessment and epidemiology, health equity and cultural responsiveness and leadership.