January 9, 2020

To: Coalition Board of Directors

Fr: Coalition Legislative Committee

Re: February 2020 Legislative recommendations

During the January meeting of the CLHO legislative committee the following bills were discussed and the committee has the following recommendations to the Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials for review and approval.

**E-cigarette flavor ban –**

Background – there will be an e-cigarette flavor ban introduced this session and the committee has the following recommendation for the position.

Committee recommendation – support a comprehensive tobacco/ nicotine flavor ban that includes mint and menthol and is inclusive of e-cigarette and combustible products. Also supportive of including marijuana products.

**Healthy Teeth Bright Futures – Oral health**

Background – the Oregon Community Foundation has been funding local coordinators to connect oral health with schools and this bill would be an incremental step to continue that work.

Committee recommendation – endorse the “healthy teeth, bright futures” concept that includes 1. Including oral health in the next update of health curriculum for DoE; 2. Encourage the OHA to submit grants to place coordinators across the state; and 3. Allow CCOs and public health to continue doing good work that is happening right now.

**Online & Telephonic E-Cigarette Sales ban -**

Background - Representative Marsh introduced this topic last session but it didn’t make it through with the attention on the tobacco/ e-cigarette tax incrase.

Committee recommendation – support the language that includes “inhalant delivery systems” in the current ban of telephone and internet sales with tobacco products.

**Safe Gun Storage -**

Background – Similar to a bill introduced in the 2019 legislative session this bill would only require firearms to be in locked (trigger lock or cable lock). Suicide attempts in children are more successful when children have access to lethal weapons

Committee recommendation – Support of the safe gun storage concept from the public health perspective of preventing children accessing firearms and suicide prevention.

**Student Health Survey**

Background – The Oregon Health Authority has been pulling together resources to release surveys on student health. This bill would codify this survey in statute, require the engagement of youth in the development and the department of education in engaging schools.

Committee recommendation – support the legislation. CLHO staff will work with the drafters to more meaningfully include LPHAs in the survey process.

**Protect Food Assistance from Federal Cuts-**

Background – Proposed federal rules would take away food assistance (SNAP/ School meals) from families in every corner of Oregon.

Committee recommendation – support the concept as part of the Children’s Agenda.

**Long-Term Rental Assistance for Low Income Oregonians –**

Background – Creates a state long term rent assistance program for households in Oregon with low incomes who are at risk of homelessness including families with children. Provide access to long term assistance paying the rent every month.

Committee recommendation – support the concept as part of the Children’s Agenda.

**Enhance Early Childhood Facilities –**

Background - Invest state bond dollars in preschool and infant toddler facilities to increase access to high quality early learning for low-income children.

Committee recommendation – support the concept as part of the Children’s Agenda.

**Clean Energy Jobs –**

Background – there is a public health impact with climate change.

Committee recommendation – watch the legislation.