

June 06, 2024

To: OHA Public Health Division

From: Conference of Local Health Officials

Re: Letter of Support for OHA's Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP) Governance

Proposal: Rescinding and replacing Executive Order establishing TRAC

The Conference of Local Health Officials (CLHO) is pleased to support OHA's request and proposal to the Governor to rescind the Executive Order no. EO-97-10 creating the [Tobacco Reduction Advisory Committee](#) (TRAC) and create a new Executive Order that will provide stability for commercial tobacco program funding. This will hold OHA accountable to our commitment to end health inequities by engaging communities who are most impacted.

Currently, Oregon's Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP) has two advisory bodies (decision-making) bodies that provide guidance on how tobacco tax revenues should be allocated to reduce statewide tobacco use. These include TRAC and Ballot Measure 108 Community Base Organization (CBO) Advisory Group.

- TRAC – established in 1997 to oversee Measure 44 (M44) tax revenues; outlined in administrative rule and Executive Order and comprised of state agencies, health associations, the Conference of Local Health Officials and national advocacy organizations.
- CBO Advisory Group – established in 2021 to provide recommendations to OHA for the equitable distribution of new Measure 108 (M108) tax revenues to community-based organizations (CBOs); comprised of 21 culturally-specific CBOs from across the state.

Partners have asked for a single, collaborative decision-making group that includes expanded and diverse membership and has purview over all commercial tobacco tax funding sources. Over the current biennium, OHA has supported the co-creation of a shared governance structure that integrates the two governance bodies and equitably represents all partners in commercial tobacco prevention. This has been done through a TPEP Ambassador model reflecting Local Public Health Authorities, community-based organizations, Regional Health Equity Coalitions and advocacy organizations recommendations.

We support rescinding the Executive Order that established TRAC and replacing it with a new EO that defines a single committee to advise on all commercial tobacco prevention programs in service to the elimination of tobacco related health inequities in Oregon.

CLHO Letterhead

Sincerely,

Conference of Local Health Officials

DRAFT