



Testimony
House Bill No. 1028
Senate Human Services Committee
March 6, 2023

Members of the Senate Human Services Committee, this testimony is submitted by Chairman Mark N. Fox on behalf of MHA Nation. My name is Jared Eagle and I am the Tribal Health Administration for MHA Nation.

The MHA Nation is in support of this bill because of its comprehensive approach to establishing community health worker standards, regulations, and reimbursement criteria. The proposed membership of the task force is diverse and includes Tribal nations and we strongly support the data-driven plan methodology.

However, our support of this bill is contingent upon tribal Community Health Representatives (CHRs) being recognized as CHWs. Therefore, we request two revisions to HB 1028:

1. Because this bill focuses on community health workers, we request that tribal Community Health Representatives (CHRs) be evaluated by the task force and included in the community health worker plan as CHRs are the original community health workers and critically important to tribal health systems.
2. We request any amendments necessary to this bill that would expedite the path to reimbursement for CHRs and CHWs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. The MHA Nation supports HB 1028 with our requested revisions.

Thank you,

Mark N. Fox
Chairman
MHA Nation