WHEREAS: Health Center Week recognizes all of those responsible for the continued success and growth of Oregon’s 32 Federally Qualified Health Centers, also known as community health centers, with over 200 service sites, dedicated staff, board members, patients; and

WHEREAS: Community health centers first opened their doors more than 50 years ago, and are a vital element in our health care system, delivering integrated primary health care to over 430,000 Oregonians living in urban, rural, and frontier communities who may otherwise not have access to care; and

WHEREAS: Community health centers are locally-focused and directed by patient-majority boards, ensuring they are responsive and accountable to the needs of the community, providing integrated physical, oral, behavioral, vision, and pharmacy services; and

WHEREAS: Community health centers remain an intrinsic partner in transforming health care in Oregon, successfully reducing health care disparities, overcoming barriers to health care access, and addressing the social determinants of health to improve health care outcomes and reduce the total cost of care; and

WHEREAS: During this observance, we celebrate the legacy of Oregon’s community health centers, and their vital role in shaping the past, present, and future of our health care system.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim August 12-18, 2018 to be

HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, August 3, 2018.

Kate Brown, Governor

Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State