

Date: April 22, 21021

To: The Vermont Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

From: Joanne Crawford

RE: H.210 Testimony

Hello,

I have been asked to provide testimony regarding H.210, an act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system. This testimony is representative of my own viewpoint.

I fully support this bill and its intent to address the inequity in Vermont's health/mental health care system and would like to share a couple of suggestions to improve the language and content of the bill.

1. On page 2, section 4A, the Native American population is being lumped into an "Other" category which suggests that the community's information is not significant enough to report. This seems inappropriate in a bill that strives to ensure no one is overlooked.
2. There is a lack of health and social statistics for the Native American community. This information, if added, would strengthen the bill and provide guidance for the Health Equity Advisory Commission.

Thank you.