



Testimony in support of SB 25A

Forensic evaluation record sharing

May 13, 2019

Dear Chair Williamson and Members of House Committee on Judiciary,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), I would like to express our support for SB 25A, which requires forensic evaluations and reports to be shared with appropriate parties, including the community mental health program director or designee. AOCMHP represents the 32 community mental health programs across the state, who share responsibility for Aid & Assist defendants with their Judiciary and Public Safety system partners, and with the Oregon Health Authority.

In order to determine whether or not a community has appropriate housing and services for a defendant's restoration and treatment, the CMHP director or designee must be involved in the decisions and have access to the same information as their Judiciary system partners do, and SB 25A clarifies this expectation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 25, an important piece of the puzzle in decreasing the number of Aid & Assist defendants at the Oregon State Hospital.

Sincerely,

Cherryl L. Ramirez

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Director, AOCMHP