



May 30, 2019

Via Email: Rep.JenniferWilliamson@oregonlegislature.gov

The Honorable Representative Jennifer Williamson
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2956 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Representative Williamson:

The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) is the world's largest organization treating autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and the nation's third largest non-governmental organization contributing to autism research. CARD provides services to individuals of all ages at over 230 locations throughout the United States, including 16 locations in Oregon.

CARD submits this letter in support of HB 2956 and commends your efforts to require the Department of Consumer and Business Services to study and make recommendations regarding changes to the Insurance Code to describe how the DCBS manages, investigates, and enforces violations of the Insurance Code. In addition, HB 2956 would require the director to establish rules and procedures for investigating complaints regarding potential violations of the Insurance Code, a critical administrative step that would contribute to efforts to increase compliance with the Insurance Code. Individuals affected by autism spectrum disorder have routinely encountered violations of the Insurance Code as the State of Oregon has implemented autism insurance reform and issued memoranda clarifying mental health parity. We recognize Oregon's commitment to its citizens in ensuring compliance with the Insurance Code and strongly support the clarification and transparency that HB 2956 will afford all Oregonians.

Thank you for your public service and, in particular, the work you do to protect Oregon's most vulnerable citizens. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please consider me a highly accessible resource for your staff and you. I can be reached via email at J.Kornack@centerforautism.com or directly at (818) 345-2345, extension 1070.

Sincerely,

Julie Kornack
Vice President, Government Relations