

Christian Wolff, MA

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Saturday, February 22, 2020

Testimony of Christian Wolff On Behalf of the Healthcare Alliance for Regulatory Board Reform

In Favor of SB 1506;

Now before the Oregon House of Representatives after unanimous passage in the full Oregon Senate on February 12, 2020; In public hearing before the House Committee on Rules, February 24, 2020

Chair, Representative Paul Holvey; Vice-Chairs, Representatives Christine Drazon & Barbara Smith Warner; Honorable members of the House Committee on Rules:

There is no time to waste in passing SB 1506. It cannot, for any reason fail to pass this year and to go into effect immediately upon passage.

I cannot imagine anyone signing publicly signing their name to its opposition, but bad faith opposition is possible. The opposition will be framed in such a way as to make it look as if it is in good faith. Some person or party may find some technicality for which they suggest an amendment. Some person or entity may do some other thing to see to it that this this bill gets tied up in other committees such that it is still, simply unpassed at this sessions fast approaching adjournment.

Any attempt to defer to 2021 should be rejected by the House Committee on Rules. This bill is simple and solid and sensible. Its passage is a common sense necessity for any one talking the talk of transparency and government which is truly operated by an informed electorate.

Too much money is spent not only on corruption in Oregon government and the impact of corruption, but on the suspicion of corruption, and the bitter gyrations of an electorate systematically left to guess at the validity of of views and counter views. To work

productively and efficiently together, we must have confidence that the same set of facts are easily and equally available to all. This to assuage doubt and settle differences in a worthwhile, effective, and civilly cooperative spirit in the electorate.

For those who lack skills, time, or inclination to do their own public research at an affordable price, the press needs reliable, affordable and timely access to information and they need the support of the law as well as the law's swift and meaningful enforcement when officials, offices, agencies commissions, and boards fail to cooperate with the requests of the press. Justice delayed is justice denied and so it true with information. A public informed but informed too late cannot be a feature of a just government and the Oregon government must not contribute to such delays nor support injustice by extension.

The independence of the Public Records Advocate as it is described in SB 1506 is a germinated seed whose promise is an Oregon flower more beautiful than the cherry blossoms which grace the Oregon Statehouse in the spring.

There will be "weather." There will be growing pains - truly painful for some. But the pests which have thrived on opacity, elitism, and capricious, arbitrary government must go, and all of Oregon - not just its unmatched landscapes, must be made beautiful again.

Our organization - the Healthcare Alliance for Regulatory Board Reform (HARBR) is rooted heavily in Oregon and we are decidedly non-partisan. I hold a license with the Oregon Board of Psychology.

On behalf of HARBR-USA and the greater good of all persons:

HARBR stands in favor of SB 1506.

We ask that is be declared effective immediately upon passage. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christian Wolff". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Christian Wolff, MA