



April 20, 2021

*Submitted via electronic mail*

Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery:

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties, representing all 36 County governments, I write to urge your support for HB 3037 A, which improves youth suicide reporting across Counties.

Since the passage of SB 561 (2015), where significant improvements were made to youth suicide reporting statewide, small changes have been identified to help better share health information across Counties about a youth suicide incident. Specifically, when a youth dies in a county outside of their home County, information needs to be allowed to be shared in order to inform their family members and create trauma informed post-vention plans. In order to achieve that communication across County lines, HB 3037 A specifies that the county medical examiner in the county in which the youth is hospitalized will notify its Local Mental Health Authority within 48-72 hours of the determination (cause of death), and the LMHA will then contact the deceased's home county Local Mental Health Authority within 72 hours of the Medical Examiners notification.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in, and we urge the committee to support HB 3037 A.

Regards,

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