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oregonsupportservices.org

February 2, 2022

To: Rep. Power, Chair, House Committee on Early Childhood
From: Katie Rose, Executive Director, Oregon Support Services Association

RE: Support for HB 4032, developing and maintaining information for children with disabilities

Chair Power and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Support Services Association is comprised of the 14 Support Service Brokerages across Oregon. We serve approximately 7,500 adults with developmental disabilities living in their own or family homes in every community throughout the state. We connect people to what matters to them and support them to make the important decisions and choices that make up a life.

Equity of information is equity of access. The IDD Brokerages support this bill as a step toward equal access to Oregon's important information and resources for all children with disabilities. As young people approach adulthood, they and their families are awash in important decisions about their future. Assuring equal and early access to the information they need to make those decisions will support a more prepared approach to the critical turning-18 transition to adulthood.

Children who know their rights and protections under the law become adults who are better able to direct their lives in the trajectory of their choosing. As providers of case management services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, we support this bill as a way to create better-informed Oregon individuals and families and increase self-determination. Please vote to approve HB 4032.