



February 3, 2022

Dear Chair Gelser Blouin and Members of the Committee,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Community Providers Association of Oregon, in impassioned support of Senate Resolution 201, which honors the incredible Kathryn Weit.

Community Providers Association of Oregon (CPAO) represents 37 IDD Medicaid Provider agencies and consultants who serve Oregonians who experience Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Kathryn is a legend in our field. A fiercely determined, no-nonsense parent advocate who knew what was needed to effectively support individuals with IDD and their families, and how we needed to go about achieving this. She was a true trailblazer, and forever changed the face of advocacy in our state. Kathryn's effectiveness in organizing, strategizing and leading were key in evolving our state's system of support and services for those with IDD. Her leadership helped drive the closure our state's former Institution for those with IDD, Fairview Training Center, the beginning of Children's Intensive In-Home Services, the initiation of Support Services for the thousands of Oregonians on the "waitlist," and the establishment of a powerful, influential self-advocate and parent advocacy machine.

Thank you for recognizing Kathryn in this manner! A much deserved honor for a one-of-a-kind, passionate, mission-driven Momma!

In Gratitude,

Anna Keenan-Mudrick, MSW

Legislative Chair, CPAO

(Executive Director, Community Access Services)