

February 8, 2022

Oregon State Legislature
House Behavioral Health Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4084 & HB 4085

Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Moore-Green, Vice Chair Reynolds, and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health:

On behalf of Oregon's 62 community hospitals and the patients they serve, the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS) thanks the committee for hearing HB 4084 and HB 4085 and Representative Wright on his work to improve behavioral health care in Oregon.

Currently the bills will create duplicative and confusing processes that raise questions on how aspects of the bill will be implemented and would work within the current delivery of care for patients. We believe the concepts in HB 4084 and HB 4085 deserve more conversation to understand the problem people are facing with the behavioral health care system and develop possible solutions. It would also be appropriate to discuss how root concerns of these bills fit in the larger behavioral health discussions that are currently taking place within the legislature.

Access to behavioral health care can be difficult to navigate for patients and community members. Issues of how people receive care and are evaluated are important to the process of care. We welcome an interim discussion and look forward to working with Representative Wright and the proponents of the bill to find solutions.

Thank you again for raising the issues in HB 4084 and Hb 4085 and OAHHS and its hospitals look forward to identifying solutions in the interim.

Thank you,



Travis Meuwissen
Director of Advocacy
Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems