

To: Joint Committee on General Government

Date: June 5, 2023

RE: Support for SB 606

Dear Committee Members,

As Executive Director of Parrott Creek Child & Family Services, a child-centered and solution-focused nonprofit organization based in Clackamas County but serving vulnerable populations from across Oregon, I am writing to ask you to support and pass SB 606, the Nonprofit Modernization Act.

SB 606 will make simple – yet much needed – changes to government contracting practices so that the essential services many of nonprofits provide are sustainable, cost-effective and staffed by dedicated, passionate and appropriately compensated professionals. Like so many aspects of government these days, Oregon’s contract models, reimbursement rates and duplicative/redundant regulatory processes have created a crisis in social services: under-funded programs, lack of infrastructure and people going un-served. Our homeless crisis, our total lack of behavioral health care and the slow implosion of residential and foster care programs all across the state are examples of where Oregon is failing. And when it fails, vulnerable, traumatized children suffer the most.

Parrott Creek’s endorsement of this bill is based on our 55-year history of providing front line services. We partner with our peers in the Oregon Alliance, the Safe Kids Coalition for Clackamas County, the Restorative Justice Coalition of Oregon *and* the Clackamas Business Alliance. Our advice is directly drawn from our experience working with children and families providing services contracted with local government partners.

We urge you to pass SB 606.

Sincerely,



Simon Fulford
Executive Director