

HB 2542 Testimony

“Good evening Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and members of the Committee. My name is Megan Marx. I am the Director of Integrated Care for Oregon Recovery and Treatment Center. We operate 5 certified and accredited opioid treatment programs in Oregon. I am also a member of the Substance Use Disorder Accreditation Advisory Group that submitted recommendations in favor of accreditation for substance use disorder treatment programs and I support HB 2542.

In 2021 the ROI Institute conducted a study on the impact of accreditation for 180 behavioral health care organizations that had achieved Joint Commission accreditation. A summary of this report has been submitted for the record. The report highlights that accreditation was associated with increased operational efficiencies, reduced liability insurance costs, and decreased staff turnover. All areas of focused concern in the post Covid world that we find ourselves delivering services in. The ROI study demonstrates that accreditation leverages programs to effectively address the growing need for safe and effective treatment services.

I can attest to the fact that accreditation is key to our ability to provide quality care and ensure the safety of the services we provide. Accreditation requires that we continually evaluate and improve the care we deliver through an internal quality improvement process, and that we measure outcomes for the individuals we serve and the program as a whole. Accreditation provides us with a stable infrastructure for a more effective workplace, increased staff commitment, and client satisfaction.

Please note, the scope of work of the Advisory Group was to develop accreditation recommendations for Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs. It did not include consideration of accreditation for recovery housing programs or mental health providers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.”