



Date: February 19, 2023  
To: Senate Human Services Committee  
RE: SB 823

Chair Blouin and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Tri County Behavioral Health Providers Association (TCBHPA). TCBHPA represents and advocates for more than 20 behavioral health provider groups in Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties. We are a membership organization with first-hand experience working with Oregon's most vulnerable youth and families.

TCBHPA is opposed to SB 823 as it would open the door to serious privacy violations for not only youth and families being served, but also our providers. SB 823 would make all OTIS findings open to the public, exposing intimate details from individuals' most traumatic experiences. While SB 823 requires names and certain information be redacted from reports, we do not believe that goes far enough to protect an individual's privacy. Reports will still include information related to date, location, and incident description, which can be used to identify victims, witnesses, and reporters.

TCBHPA is particularly concerned that this bill will not protect staff working at child caring agencies (CCAs) by prohibiting the names of reporters from CCAs from being redacted. By revealing the names of CCA reporters, we run the risk of potential failure to report due to a fear of exposure. This may negatively impact our already struggling workforce.

For the reasons listed above, we suggest the legislature convene an appropriate committee to review the entirety of child abuse & neglect reporting processes to ensure our youth, families, and providers' privacy is sufficiently protected.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tri County Behavioral Health Providers Association

**TCBHPA Members:** Acadia Healthcare, Asian Health and Services Center, Cascadia Health, Catholic Charities, Catholic Community Services, Central City Concern, CODA, Kinship House, Legacy, Lifeworks Northwest, Lines for Life, Lutheran Community Services, Morrison Child & Family, NARA NW, New Narrative, Northwest Family Services, Options Counseling, Outside In, Quest Center for Integrative Health, Sequoia Mental Health, Telecare Corporation, The Northwest Catholic Counseling Center, Trillium Family Services, Volunteers of America, LifeStance, Youth Contact