

Submitter: Clare Stanfield

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3040

February 22, 2023

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

900 Court St. NE

Salem, OR

97301

RE: HB 3040

I am writing in support of HB 3040, which enables coordinated care organizations to share patient information with contracted providers.

As a Youth Peer Support Specialist who has worked with Wraparound services in Columbia, Clackamas, and Multnomah counties, I have experienced the difficulties, inconsistencies, and hazards of our current systems of sharing information across organizations and providers. I share this experience with my colleagues within peer support, and it is also a point of frequent discussion during coalition meetings of providers. It is too often social work organizations are forced to isolate and compete against each other for grants and funding, and they become disconnected. It is even more often for differing providers to operate as separate entities within Oregon.

As I understand it, this is a major factor contributing to the withholding and mishandling of patient information. When information is withheld for legal or financial reasons, there are opportunities for burnout, redundancy, inaccurate treatments, etc. that could otherwise be avoided with streamlined and accessible communication.

As local and state leaders, it is our responsibility to ensure fluid, consensual, and accurate communication within medical contexts. It is up to us to coordinate and adhere to the greater mission that is a patient's health and their informed treatments, especially when there are multiple treatment modalities involved. My support of HB 3040 echoes the necessity for more practical measures to coordinate, and my hope is this is just the beginning of larger renovations.

Thank you,
Clare Stanfield