

Submitter: Lisandra Sepulveda
On Behalf Of: HPI
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure: SB606

March 1, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members:

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

HPI asks you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities they serve.

I wanted to take a moment to introduce you to Horizon Project. For over 40 years Horizon Project has cared for and supported individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities across Umatilla County – often when no one else would.

The importance of our work with people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities has been consistent and crucial. Provider agencies like Horizon Project are in communities across the state, caring for our communities' most vulnerable. We do the work so that the State doesn't have to, and we do it well...with care and empathy.

Please take a moment to read our Annual report and browse through our website at www.horizonprojectinc.org. I would be happy to provide you with additional information and introduce you further to our work, though I know your time is limited and there is much work to be done.

Also attached are two documents that explain how crucial state funding is to continue our work. Our caregivers have been showing up – 24/7 all during the pandemic – as a critical frontline workforce. Along with doctors, nurses, and first responders, our Care Teams have been actively caring for others.

As you consider the many important needs that present themselves to you, I ask that you remember the work of Horizon Project and the funding that it takes to do this work...in rural eastern Oregon and across the state. Through our state association, Oregon Resource Association, provider agencies across the state continue to advocate for financial resources to meet the ever-present need of those we support.

We ask for support because those in our care often cannot.

Please consider supporting our mission by increasing the funding available to pay for their care.

Please consider creating the Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants to nonprofits to help maintain and prevent employee turnover

HPI appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Lisandra Sepulveda, CPO