



Testimony in support of HB 3126 – Hospital crisis stabilization for children and youth

March 13, 2023

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), representing CMHPs statewide, who manage the local behavioral health safety net in their communities and provide a wide array of services for people who are Medicaid eligible, uninsured or underinsured, I am writing to express our support for HB 3126 to provide crisis stabilization services regionally at hospitals for children and youth.

One of the safety net services CMHPs provide is mobile crisis response. Some people CMHPs respond to need to be taken to a place for crisis stabilization. Hospitals are already structured to serve in this role and would help fill the statewide gap in crisis stabilization centers that serve children and youth.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 3126, allowing emergency departments to serve as an option for crisis stabilization services for children and youth.

Sincerely,

Cherryl L. Ramirez
Executive Director, AOCMHP