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March 17, 2023

Dear Senator Gelser Blouin, Senator Robinson, Senator Manning, Senator Prozanski and Senator Weber:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1016.

The Arc supports three networks across Lane and Douglas Counties. We have seen firsthand the impact their work has had on families who are raising a child with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. They are connecting parents with other parents, so they feel less alone. They walk beside parents and provide resources, trainings, and fun family events. They work to create more welcoming and accessible community for families. Most important of all, they give families hope that their children will lead full and productive lives.

The Family to Family Networks across Oregon are working to ensure that families have the tools they need to navigate the complex service system, feel empowered, and live full lives in their communities.

Please support SB 1016, which will put the Regional Family to Family Networks in statute as part of the formal Developmental Disabilities Service System.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Pamela S. Ring,  
Executive Director, The Arc Lane County