



**ASSOCIATION OF OREGON
COMMUNITY MENTAL
HEALTH PROGRAMS**

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Robinson, and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Dawn-Alisa Sadler, and I am the I/DD Specialist at the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP). Included in the Association's membership are the Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDPs), whose main responsibility is providing case management services to individuals who experience an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (I/DD).

Case managers are a lifeline for individuals who experience an I/DD. They protect people's health and safety, and ensure that individuals receive the services they need and are entitled by law. Whether it is finding a job, housing, or transportation to medical appointments, a case manager from a CDDP must always be there when called upon.

Since the closure of the Fairview Training Center (FTC) in 2000 and Eastern Oregon Training Center (EOTC) in 2009, there has not been a formal institution for individuals who experience an I/DD to be committed to. Oregon has rightfully embraced the need to help individuals who experience an I/DD remain rooted in their local communities and homes. Despite the closure of Oregon's I/DD institutions, our 427 civil commitment statute, which governs the commitment process for an individual who experiences an I/DD, remains on Oregon's books.

Over the past few months, AOCMHP has participated in a workgroup convened by Sen. Gelser Blouin to look into whether the 427 statute should be repealed. That workgroup process has led to what is currently in SB 1522. The bill will both repeal the outdated 427 statute, and ensure that reasonable alternatives exist should an individual with an I/DD be deemed a danger to themselves or others.

SB 1522 continues Oregon's needed and strong support of serving individuals who experience an I/DD in their home and local community. The Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP) urges your support for this bill.

Thank you for your time.