

Submitter: Jim Baucom

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB4139

I support alternatives to the slow moving OHA.

Oregonians are struggling with addiction and severe and persistent mental health issues coupled with drug use. Frequently, those are in combination with homelessness, which brings acts of violence, thefts and break-ins at local businesses.

HB 4139 presents a unique opportunity to cut red tape and encourage private and non-profit investment in our behavioral healthcare system by removing the requirement for a certificate of need for certain types of facilities.

Healthcare facilities would still have to follow other state and federal standards and accreditation, ensuring that Oregonians would receive quality care.

In the past several years, the Legislature has committed over \$1 billion to behavioral health and substance abuse treatment.

Yet we have been slow to expand access to any treatment, which is why we are still seeing an expanding crisis on our streets.

HB 4139 will help increase access to inpatient and outpatient behavioral health and substance abuse care.