

Grow Behavior Services

3280 NE Irving Street
Portland, OR 97232

House Committee on Behavioral Health & Healthcare

900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

February 11th, 2025

RE: HB 2023 SUPPORT

Dear Representative Rob Nosse and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare,

On behalf of the Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis (ORABA), I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 2023. This **critical** legislation ensures equitable health insurance coverage for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) diagnoses, extending the same requirements for coverage as those applied to autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnoses.

As an individual and organization leader committed to advancing the field of behavior analysis and improving access to evidence-based interventions within the state of Oregon, I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for individuals with IDD to not be denied the benefits of ABA therapy due to limitations in insurance coverage. Research has consistently demonstrated the efficacy of ABA in improving the quality of life, independence, and functional skills of individuals with a wide range of developmental disabilities. By passing HB 2023, Oregon can take a necessary and long-overdue step toward equitable access to medically necessary treatments.

Currently, many Oregonians with IDD face barriers to accessing ABA therapy, leaving families struggling to obtain appropriate care for their loved ones. This bill will ensure that individuals receive the support they need, reducing long-term costs associated with untreated developmental challenges and improving overall community well-being. Expanding insurance coverage for ABA aligns with Oregon's commitment to inclusion, accessibility, and healthcare equity.

I urge the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare to vote "YES" on HB 2023 and uphold the rights of individuals with IDD to receive the same standard of care as those with ASD.

ORABA stands ready to support this bill in any way necessary, whether through testimony, advocacy efforts, or collaboration with stakeholders.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to ensuring all Oregonians have access to essential behavioral health services.

Respectfully,



Emily Kroman, M.Ed., BCBA, LBA
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