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2/13/2025

Honorable Representative Rob Nosse Chair, House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care 900 Court Street NE, Room 453 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representative Nosse,

On behalf of Visions, LLC I am writing to express our strong support for HB 2023, which proposes to establish health insurance coverage for applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disability diagnoses (I/DD), ensuring parity with coverage for autism spectrum disorder diagnoses. This legislation is crucial for expanding access to essential ABA services for a broader population in need.

Our agency provides behavioral consultation for individuals with I/DD statewide through the Medicaid Waiver (K-Plan). Our services are based in Oregon's 'positive behavior support' model, focusing on proactive support strategies for caregivers. We believe that people with I/DD also deserve access to ABA services which provide the opportunity to systematically build functional skills for meaningful, person-centered gains in independence. This treatment can have a cascade of positive impacts such as reducing the likelihood of future placement changes related to behavioral concerns and meaningful improvement in the individual's quality of life.

HB 2023 is a necessary step toward equitable access to evidence-based therapies for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We respectfully urge the committee to vote in favor of HB 2023.

Thank you for your time and service to the state of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Jenna Sant-Wing, MA BCBA Director of Western Operations

Visions, LLC