

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB61

I started my private therapy practice so I could align my clinical expertise and identities with the community which needs me; BIPOC, queer and trans folks. When I worked for an agency, we had to see any client, regardless of our experience or lack thereof. Owning a private practice has allowed me to maximize my skills and provide much needed therapy to marginalized folks who are generally underserved and underrepresented as therapists. I provide high quality services, am dedicated to my own continued learning, and receive positive feedback from clients.

The primary negative of private practice is all the financial insecurity that comes with it. As I am not a time traveler, it's frightening to think that work I completed years past may be invalidated by an audit. I have taken courses and was trained in documentation at my past job, but I know no one is perfect and there is always room for improvement and interpretation. I support audits and the goal of improving care. But it's financially unsustainable and anxiety inducing to work with the fear that services offered years ago may be clawed back. Those of us in the helping professions already are paid less and generally leave school with more debt than other masters degrees. Don't further financially penalize us for doing our best in the moment. I believe an audit should provide recommendations and a road to improvement. Not financial devastation. Thank you for your consideration.