

Submitter:

Elizabeth Gregory

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB61

I am a licensed mental health provider in the state of Oregon and am writing in support of this bill. As a private practitioner and a provider for many OHP clients over the years, I cannot stress how important Senate bill 61 would be for both practitioners and clients currently in the OHA system. For many providers it could make the difference between staying in practice or closing their doors, further expanding the gap between client need and access to services. Many providers remain fearful of audits resulting in unfair clawbacks for past services rendered. Some are forced to leave insurance panels or avoid taking clients on certain insurance due to the inability to take the risk of losing money that they don't have. Voting in support of this bill would demonstrate the support for not only providers that were part of the front line workers keeping many people afloat during times of Covid through challenging times of today, but for clients as well. These changes would be one step in the right direction of improving systems to include more fair practices that help expand mental health resources by reducing uncertainty and fear of lost revenue for services already provided with the inability to recoup elsewhere. Providers like myself, go into this line of work so that we can help others, won't you help us ensure that our work will not go unpaid? I urge you to vote in favor of Senate bill 61 for many residents of Oregon. Thank you,