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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB61

This is a tough time to be a mental health professional. Insurance companies make it increasingly difficult to continue to take insurance due to differing reimbursement rates, difficulty getting paid, the lopsided appeal process, etc. I am an LPC who has been practicing since 2011. I have specialized in kids, teens, and families. I have taken OHP since approximately 2017. There is so much fear about doing something wrong and having money taken back. This clarity provides better assurances for providers about their financial income and would allow providers to continue to take OHP. OHP clawback rules are often different than private insurance companies. This bill is an important part so providers continue to take OHP and allow for low income individuals and families to have access to a wide variety of providers. There are small errors that at this point OHP could deny payment for a session and ask for reimbursement. The most important part is that the provider can prove the session happened and training can make it so the provider can make changes in the future. With most of my income coming from OHP, a big clawback could shut down my practice. I have taken extensive training on documentation so that I can meet all the expectations of OHP but I am bound to make mistakes here and there but OHP has extremely high standards that I may not always be able to meet. This creates an extremely stressful situation and the passing of the bill will make the situation more fair for providers who work hard to provide great care.