



Testimony in support of HB 2208-1
One unified local health planning process

March 4, 2025

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Javadi and Nelson, Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), I am writing to express our support for HB 2208-1. Community Mental Health Programs (CMHPs), together with Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs), are responsible for planning behavioral health system services for their communities, as prescribed in ORS 430.630. In the upcoming revision of the county financial assistance agreement (CFAA), CMHPs will be required to complete a local plan in collaboration with their boards, system partners, and community members.

HB 2208-1 requires coordinated care organizations (CCOs) to collaborate with CMHPs and other entities that have planning responsibilities to co-create the community health improvement plan (CHIP). This change in planning process will result in one unified plan rather than several separate and potentially conflicting plans. The local plan requirement for the CFAA will be incorporated as the behavioral health component of the CHIP. This integration of planning efforts will impact communities positively and reduce duplication of planning efforts.

We urge your support of HB 2208 with the -1 amendment.

Sincerely,

Cherryl L. Ramirez
Executive Director, AOCMHP