

Submitter: Jules Allison

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2029

Behavioral health providers play a crucial role in addressing mental health and substance use disorders in our communities. However, the current audit practices by insurers and CCOs often create an environment of uncertainty and financial instability for providers. Unpredictable audits, unclear requirements, and the threat of recoupment for minor errors can divert attention and resources away from patient care.

These challenges have become so significant that I have seriously considered no longer accepting insurance in my practice. This would reduce access to care for many clients who rely on their insurance to receive mental health services, directly contradicting efforts to improve mental health equity and accessibility. Providers should not be forced into this difficult decision due to opaque and punitive audit practices.

By implementing the provisions outlined in HB 2029, Oregon can ensure that behavioral health providers are treated fairly and transparently, allowing them to focus on delivering essential services without the looming threat of unjust audit practices.

I urge the committee to pass HB 2029 to support the sustainability of behavioral health services in Oregon and to protect providers from unfair audit practices that ultimately harms those in need of care.

Thank you for considering my testimony.