



Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1065.

My name is Dawn-Alisa Sadler and I am the I/DD System Policy Manager for the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP). The Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDPs), which provide case management services to individuals who experience an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (I/DD) in all 36 counties of Oregon, are members of the Association.

Case managers who serve individuals with I/DD are a lifeline. They protect the health and safety of everyone on their caseload and ensure that those individuals receive the services they need. Whether it be finding a job, housing, or transportation, a case manager will always be there when called upon.

When Oregon adopted the K-Plan in the early 2010s, our state made a commitment to serving those who experience an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (I/DD) in their local communities. Individuals who we serve are empowered to make decisions about their own life and wellbeing, with the assistance of their case managers. Such assistance is regularly referred to as “supportive decision-making.”

SB 1065 would create the Center for Decision-Making Supports within the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman. The system would help disseminate information about guardianship, supportive decision-making, and other alternatives to guardianship that may be available to an individual receiving services.

The Center could also serve as an educational resource for families of individuals who experience an I/DD, and could be a repository of information that case managers could rely on to ensure that individuals and their families are connected to the services they may need.

SB 1065 will help keep families informed about their service choices, and ensure that case managers have another resource to help those we serve. We urge your support of SB 1065 and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn-Alisa Sadler
DD Policy Manager - AOCMHP