

FROM THE DESK OF
TRACY BRYCE FARMER LCSW PC

03/11/2025

Re: HB 2029

To: Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee

My name is Tracy Bryce Farmer. I am an LCSW operating a private practice in Portland, Oregon and a member of the Western Oregon Mental Health Alliance (WOMHA). I am writing to urge you to pass HB 2029.

A few years ago, I made the difficult decision to leave two of Oregon's largest insurance providers to ensure ethical patient care and protect the stability of my business. Aggressive auditing and clawback practices to protect corporate bottom lines are a scourge in mental health care; intimidating therapists and forcing us to work too hard on maintaining adequate pay have led directly to the impoverishment of Oregon's insurance panels. While there have been recent improvements, Oregon still ranks among the worst states for mental health and substance use disorder treatment. If predatory insurance practices were curtailed, I believe I would be one of many psychotherapists who would rejoin panels to care for Oregon's citizens who struggle with mental health and substance use disorders.

It would be powerful to show the people of Oregon that government still works to protect health & safety through their right to access earned benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TB Farmer', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tracy Bryce Farmer LCSW PC
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