

Submitter: Emma Stern

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2029

Dear Chairman Nosse and Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care:

My name is Emma Stern and I am a LPC in private practice in Oregon. I am writing this letter in support of HB2029.

Insurance audits are abusive and unfair and limit access to care to the people of Oregon. Please help stop this practice.

Mental health providers are not given adequate information on documentation requirements or how to prepare for insurance audits. This lack of clarity is abusive and unnecessary. Many mental health professionals refuse to work with insurance due to the risk of this dynamic, which subsequently reduces access to mental health services for the people of Oregon and particularly harms those who are most vulnerable. As a mental health practitioner, I chose to work with insurance because I believe mental health services should be accessible to everyone. With that, I experience chronic anxiety and at times debilitating fear of insurance audits due to the lack of clarity around what is expected on my behalf. Mental health professionals deserve to know what is expected in insurance audits so they can pass them.

Thank you for supporting this bill.

Sincerely,

Emma Stern