

Submitter: Anonymous Therapist

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2029

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 2029, which seeks to reform the auditing processes for behavioral health treatment providers in Oregon. This legislation is a crucial step toward ensuring that these providers can operate effectively and continue delivering essential services to our communities.

Behavioral health treatment providers play a vital role in addressing mental health and substance use disorders, conditions that have been on the rise in recent years. However, the current auditing practices by insurers and coordinated care organizations often place undue administrative burdens on these providers, diverting their focus from patient care to paperwork. HB 2029 proposes to:

- **Standardize Audit Procedures:** By requiring insurers and coordinated care organizations to provide clear, detailed descriptions of all requirements for claim submissions, the bill ensures that providers are fully informed and can prepare accurate claims, reducing the likelihood of disputes. ?
- **Limit Retrospective Audits:** The bill imposes restrictions on the timeframe and scope of retrospective audits, preventing providers from facing unexpected financial liabilities for services rendered long ago. This fosters a more stable financial environment for providers. ?
- **Promote Collaboration:** HB 2029 directs the Oregon Health Authority to work with healthcare providers, coordinated care organizations, community groups advocating for diversity and health equity, and healthcare industry representatives to develop recommendations for auditing processes. This collaborative approach ensures that the auditing system is fair, transparent, and considers the perspectives of all stakeholders. ?

By implementing these measures, HB 2029 will reduce unnecessary administrative burdens on behavioral health providers, allowing them to dedicate more time and resources to patient care. This is especially important as Oregon continues to address the challenges posed by mental health and substance use disorders.

I urge you to support HB 2029 and take a significant step toward improving the efficiency and effectiveness of behavioral health services in our state.