

Submitter: Terra Marzano
On Behalf Of: Rural therapists
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2029

I am writing in support of HB 2029 and urging you to also support the passing of this bill to ensure continued access to mental health treatment for all Oregonians.

I live in Tillamook county, where I have practiced clinical social work for 10-yrs, serving adults with mental health and addiction concerns; the vast majority of my clients live in these federally designated health provider shortage areas. As you are likely aware, insurance audits are famous for being overly-aggressive, far-reaching, and ultimately devastating for mental healthcare providers who, in response, choose to terminate their insurance contracts and/or close their business entirely in order to protect themselves further. If we have any hope of ensuring adequate healthcare access to rural and frontier residents, we have to protect providers from abusive audits.

Please vote in support of these necessary insurance audit guardrails by passing HB2029.