



March 12, 2025

Dear Co-Chairs, Prozanski and Kropf, Members of the Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response:

I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Prevention Professionals (OCP) to express our strong support for House Bill 3321, HB 3375, and HB 2502. As a newly established organization representing health promotion and addiction prevention professionals, coalitions, and community partners across Oregon, OCP is dedicated to advancing community-based prevention through best practices, leadership, professional development, advocacy, and collaboration. With HB 3321's emphasis on developing a primary prevention state strategy, we see a critical opportunity to connect public health infrastructure with grassroots prevention efforts. In this context, OCP is uniquely positioned to provide assistance.

As prevention professionals, we have witnessed the urgent need for a coordinated, statewide approach to prevent substance use before it begins, particularly among Oregon's youth. The directive from HB 3321 to the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission (ADPC) to develop and implement a primary prevention strategy—utilizing universal, selective, and indicated interventions—aligns perfectly with OCP's mission and expertise. Our organization's definition of prevention reflects this framework: intervening before risky behaviors emerge, promoting protective factors, reducing risks, and providing screening and referral services.

We commend the bill's definition of "primary prevention," which intervenes before negative health effects arise to delay or prevent young people from using harmful substances. This clarity strengthens the bill's intent and aligns with OCP's focus on youth as a priority population. We urge the Committee to preserve this robust definition and the bill's comprehensive approach, which includes universal, selective, and indicated strategies, as a cornerstone of Oregon's prevention efforts.

If HB 3321 merges with related bills such as HB 3375 or HB 2502, we respectfully request that the focus on primary prevention and youth remains clear and strong, as these elements are vital for fostering healthier communities.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue. By passing HB 3321, you will empower Oregon to prevent substance use before it starts, strengthen families, and promote equity across our state. OCP is eager to collaborate with the ADPC, OHA, and community stakeholders to realize this vision. We respectfully request your "Do Pass" and "Yes" vote on HB 3321.

Sincerely,

The Executive Leadership Team

Oregon Coalition of Prevention Professionals

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