

March 28, 2025

**Senate Committee on Human Services**

**RE: Senate Bill 1113**

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee

I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1113 as it strives to provide clarity and consistency without misplacing accountability or compromising the safety of Oregon's most vulnerable children. As a parent of a youth who sometimes expresses distress through aggression, I understand first-hand the safety concerns and frustrations of staff and providers who are faced with potentially harmful situations in schools and Child Caring Agencies.

Access to care for children with extraordinary needs is essential. Safety for children and the staff who care for them is essential. The problems identified in House Bill 3835 are significant and must be acknowledged. However, the solution is not to relax policy and reduce system accountability. Instead, we must look forward and invest in evidence-based workforce support and prevention-first care models. This approach will help eliminate the need for restraint, seclusion, out-of-home, and out-of-state placements except in the most extreme circumstances.

*"Just as the lives of people exposed to repetitive and chronic trauma, abuse, and maltreatment become organized around the traumatic experience, so too can entire systems become organized around the recurrent and severe stresses."*<sup>1</sup>

Oregon's children and families need upstream solutions delivered by well-trained and adequately resourced staff working within healthy systems.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carol Dickey, MBA, MS  
Advocate for the Family Voice

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<sup>1</sup> Bloom, S. L. (2011) Trauma-organised systems and parallel process. In Tehrani, N. (Ed.). (2011). *Managing trauma in the workplace: Supporting workers and organisations*. Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group.  
<https://sandrabloom.com/wp-content/uploads/2011-BLOOM-TRAUMA-ORGANIZED-SYSTEMS-PARALLEL-PROCESS.pdf>