



WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

April 4, 2025

House Committee on Judiciary

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In Support of HB 2467

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallen, Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

As you know, Washington County is the second largest county by population within the state of Oregon, and, as a result, works to provide services to over 600,000 Oregonians. A key provision of the county's work is to support the most vulnerable people in our community by providing the needed services and supports to keep them safe and stable, regardless of their personal circumstances.

Our county provides these supports through our public health, behavioral health, housing services, and public safety work. And, when we are faced with the challenging choice of pursuing an involuntary civil commitment to help those who are a danger to themselves or unable to meet their basic needs secondarily to mental illness, it is important that there is clarity around the criteria and process.

HB 2467 creates the clarity needed for the County's work when we need to approach a civil commitment. By creating clearer definitions of specific terms and standardizing the mental health investigations needed to support any effort to civilly commit a person, outcomes will be more equitable, and the assessment of risk will be more accurate. These are core values to the Washington County Board of Commissioners that will allow our work to enhance the safety of our community, provide comprehensive services to those who are most vulnerable, and equitably apply the civil commitment process to individuals who need this help.

For these reasons, we support the passage of HB 2467 and appreciate the collaborative work that created the proposed bill.

Sincerely,

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