

March 20, 2025

RE: Senate Bill 602 - Task Force on Modernizing Nonprofit Grant Funding and Contracting Recommendations

The Oregon Alliance joins with Oregon's nonprofits to ask you to support the <u>recommendations of</u> <u>the state Task Force on Modernizing Grant Funding and Contracting</u> by passing Senate Bill 602. The recommendations are designed to improve the process and outcomes of government grants and contracts.

The Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs advocates for the safety, health, and well-being of children, youth, families, and communities across Oregon. Our member organizations provide essential services in homes, schools, residential programs, and communities statewide, working alongside government agencies and community leaders to deliver effective programs and policies that support Oregon's most vulnerable populations.

Our community-based members have experienced late reimbursement from the state for services already provided. Delays in payment put severe strain on non-profits, especially smaller agencies that simply do not have the cash flow while they wait for their reimbursement. Some members have reported as much as an eight-month delay.

Senate Bill 602, if enacted, improves and streamlines how government grants and contracts are structured and administered. The Bill would make important changes such as:

- Encourages state agencies to make advance payments for grant funds equivalent to onequarter of the annual contract value at the start of each new fiscal year for both new and ongoing contracts and grants.
- Initiates steps to create a centralized statewide grant management database to integrate procurement and program management workflows, store organizational information (organizational profile) and application details, and operate as a repository for reports and training materials.

To review all of the task force's findings and recommendations, we encourage you to read the full <u>report</u>. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Vera Stoulil

Vera Stoulil CEO, Oregon Alliance Empowering Organizations, Transforming Lives