



Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Tri-County Behavioral Health Providers Association (TCBHPA), we are pleased to offer our strong support for Senate Bill 602, which carries forward the recommendations of the State Task Force on Modernizing Grant Funding and Contracting. These recommendations aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government grants and contracts, enabling nonprofits to provide critical services to Oregonians while ensuring they receive the financial support necessary to do so effectively.

In light of the significant budget challenges at both the state and local levels, we anticipate fewer resources available for services in the coming years. This will impact essential programs across the state at a time when they are most needed. With fewer dollars available, it is critical that every dollar spent is utilized as effectively as possible to meet the growing needs of our communities.

Now is the time to address the inefficiencies in the current system that have resulted in cumbersome application processes, restrictive contracts, unnecessary reporting burdens, delayed payments, reimbursement-based grants, and inadequate administrative funding. These outdated practices have often hindered nonprofits in fulfilling their mission to serve Oregonians.

We believe that SB 602 is an essential step forward in modernizing our approach to contracting and grantmaking. By improving these processes, we can ensure that the funds directed to community-based services are used effectively and deliver the intended outcomes.

We appreciate your continued leadership in strengthening Oregon's behavioral health system, and we strongly encourage your support for SB 602 as part of the broader effort to ensure equitable access to care for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,
TCBHPA Board of Directors