I am on the of Oregon Board of Licensed Social Workers and a practicing licensed clinical social worker. My comments are specific to portions of HB4083 as it is currently written. The portion of the bill that addresses credentialing is important and would be valuable for many providers and programs across Oregon. However, the Governor's office has included additional pieces specific to social workers that are concerning. Based on the board and social worker feedback given directly to the Governor's office they have agreed to remove the section of this bill that would shift the social work board's administrative duties to the Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

HB4083 also attempts to address clinical supervision of social work associates-those who are in process of working towards their license. Currently, by rule, licensed psychologists are approved to provide supervision to social work associates. In September 2025, the OBLSW convened a rules advisory committee whose focus is to amend our current rules to allow licensed marriage and family therapists and licensed professional counselors to also provide supervision to social work associates. Those additional individuals would be licensed psychologists, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors. The portion of HB4083 that addresses supervision is unnecessary at best. It does not acknowledge or honor the work the board is already doing in this area and despite communicating this to the Governor's office they are opting to not remove the language. I believe that performative language and legislation/rules do not serve the people of Oregon. Oversight of social workers should be left to social workers, especially since we have a long documented history of responsible, ethical actions in this regard. Although this portion of the bill is likely well intentioned it simply is an overstep.