



May 6, 2015

Senate Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

Chair Monnes Anderson,

I am writing on behalf of CODA in support of House Bill 3132.

CODA, founded in 1969 to treat opioid addiction, serves patients whose lives and health are compromised by alcohol, drug and mental health challenges. CODA's programs utilize the best practices for compassionate, evidence-based treatment and support. In addition, CODA collaborates with leading institutions, universities, and governments on research to advance the state-of-the-art for treatment and care. CODA is proud to have been one of three recipients of the 2012 Science and Service Award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which recognizes organizations that successfully implement innovative services or practices that lead to improved outcomes.

Last year, CODA served more than 3,300 Oregonians in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties, including pregnant women receiving medication-assisted treatment for substance-use disorders and women in recovery being reunited with children who had been in foster care. In order for CODA to meet the growing demand for our services, it is critical that we stretch every dollar further, and HB 3132 helps us to do that.

House Bill 3132 enables CODA to work with local healthcare-facilities authorities to access tax-exempt conduit revenue bonds to support expansion of our facilities. By providing an additional option for financing construction projects, HB 3132 helps CODA obtain capital at lower interest rates. Being able to access capital with a lower cost allows CODA to use more of our limited resources to meet the growing need for our services, which serve so many of our most vulnerable citizens.

On behalf of CODA, I respectfully urge you to move HB 3132 forward with a "do pass" recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Hartnett". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Tim Hartnett
Executive Director, CODA, Inc.