

From: [Rep Fahey](#)
To: [JWMHS Exhibits](#)
Subject: FW: Junction City Hospital
Date: Monday, March 06, 2017 10:43:23 AM

Linda and Eric,

Please accept this submitted testimony on HB 5026, the OHA budget, relating to the Junction City Hospital.

Thank you,

Jake Foster

Lead Legislative Assistant
Representative Julie Fahey | District 14
(503) 986-1414

From: Jon and Barb Ruiz [mailto:jplusb@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2017 9:45 AM
To: Rep Fahey <Rep.JulieFahey@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: Junction City Hospital

Dear Representative Fahey,

Please register this in lieu of my personal testimony at the hearing Wednesday on Junction City Hospital. I am sorry I am unable to attend the hearing in Salem, but I do have strong feelings on the subject of potential closure of this facility.

My personal connection to this stems from family friends who have a son living and thriving there. Since his admittance following a horrific psychotic event that involved an knife attack against his father (which put his father in mortal limbo, literally), he has been able to stabilize with the help of medications and management by the folks at Junction City and he is now looking at a productive life. Had he been unable to access services and support there, I and the experts who recommended him for psychiatric care versus prison am sure that not only would his life be at risk, but so would the lives of others. Thanks to JCH, he is now healthy and has the prospect of a good life. This is humane, and it has got to be fiscally preferable to warehousing people like him in prison.

Jack Tripp, Executive Director of the Eugene Mission, Terry McDonald, Executive Director of St. Vincent de Paul, and others who give their lives to trying to help homeless people both aver that much of the problem with homeless people is due to mental illness. I cannot conceive how anyone would want to eliminate the great resource that JCH is as we continue to face the burgeoning problem of mental illness

among the homeless, and mental illness among those who would become homeless without mental health support.

I ask with all my heart and mind - please, please keep JCH open.

Thank you for the difficult and complex work you do,

Barbara Ruiz
Eugene, Oregon