



Comments on House Bill 3355
From Chris Bouneff, Executive Director, NAMI Oregon
April 5, 2017
House Committee on Health Care

NAMI Oregon wishes to clarify NAMI's position on the issue of prescribing privileges for specially trained psychologists to prescribe and manage mental health medications.

NAMI does not endorse such proposals and remains neutral on legislation such as HB 3355. It has been represented that NAMI opposes proposals such as HB 3355. This is false.

The evidence to date is clear. With proper training and oversight, having psychologists prescribe and manage mental health medications can be done safely and effectively. However, the evidence also suggests that such efforts don't generally expand access to prescribers. As such, NAMI Oregon has not made this issue a priority in its advocacy on either side of the debate.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide NAMI Oregon's official position on this issue.