



Testimony in Support of SB 1054
Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

April 13, 2017

Chair Boquist and Members of the Committee,

In February 2016, the Wilsonville City Council voted unanimously to approve the siting of Willamette Valley Behavioral Health, a 100-bed mental health facility. It is a well-designed project with an estimated cost of \$35 million.

The Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council supports this project as an important and necessary economic development project in the Portland-Metro area. The construction and operation of Willamette Valley Behavioral Health will support a sizeable number of family-wage jobs.

The delay in issuing the Certificate of Need has prevented our members from being able to begin this project. SB 1054 addresses that issue with a limited exemption that sunsets in two years. We urge the committee to pass this bill, which will support projects like Willamette Valley Behavioral Health.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request and for your support of SB 1054.

Sincerely,

Tim Frew
Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council