



Testimony in support of HB 3090A

ED release policies following a behavioral health crisis

May 15, 2017

Dear Chair Gelser and Members of Senate Human Services Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), I would like to express our support for HB 3090A, to apply the same release policies for emergency department patients presenting with behavioral health crises, who are not admitted to a hospital, as those who are admitted to a hospital. We believe this change will reduce suicides and improve health outcomes among individuals who are released following treatment in the emergency department.

Additionally, we support the progress report on both barriers and successes in implementing the same discharge policies for people not admitted to a hospital, as prescribed in HB 2023 from 2015 for people with behavioral health crises who have been admitted to a hospital.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 3090A.

Sincerely,

Cherryl L. Ramirez

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Director, AOCMHP