From: Steven Woolpert To: <u>JWMTR Exhibits</u>

Cc: <u>Stevenwoolpert@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Support SB 860

**Date:** Monday, June 05, 2017 10:31:14 PM

## Senators and Representatives of the Oregon Legislature:

I am writing to urge you in supporting Senate Bill 860. As a provider of Behavioral Health & Mental Health services in Oregon at a primary care clinic in Maupin, Oregon as a Licensed Professional Counselor, this bill would enhance the ability to be paid equitably under the parity statute. It would help our clinic in rural Oregon to provide quality of care by reimbursing fairly and continue to give access for behavioral services that improve health care. The Oregon Health Authority recognizes the importance of making Mental Health services accessible. Private insurers also include those services as they see the value for healthy functioning of workers and their families. SB 860 ensures that Mental Health providers are on par with other Medical services as the parity law requires. Please give it serious consideration.

Respectfully, Steven Woolpert, LPC Deschutes Rim Clinic Maupin, Oregon 541-395-2911