

GREATER DOUGLAS



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Endorsement of Oregon House Bill 3122

The following is respectfully submitted to be included in the Public Record as supplemental Public Comment to hearings held in March 2019 re HB 3122

March 14, 2019

The Oregon Legislature, House of Representatives
Committee of Human Services and Housing
Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, Chair
900 Court St. NE Room H-272
Salem OR 97301

Rep.AlissaKenyGuyer@oregonlegislature.gov

Honorable Chair Kenny-Guyer and Committee Members:

As Greater Douglas United Way's Executive Director from Roseburg, Oregon, I am writing to you to speak out in support of House Bill 3122:

Requires Department of Human Services to request in agency request budget and Governor to include in Governor's budget specified amount of General Fund moneys for distribution to centers for independent living.

Centers for Independent Living (CILs) in Oregon play a critical role in empowering people with disabilities to find a voice and to advocate for resources to meet their needs. Access to CIL peer counselors is a unique resource not available at other safety net service agencies. People with disabilities find their voices at CILs!

We need robust CIL peer counseling services across Oregon for our agency and state services to be successful. CILs provide a foundation for accessing services.

HB 3122 is a measured plan for expanding CIL service capacity to reach 5% of people with disabilities over a 10 year period (2019 – 2029), and to extend CIL services statewide during that period.

Please support

- parity for peer-based CIL safety net funding for people with disabilities and
- investment in the basic civil rights of the often disenfranchised people with disabilities in Oregon.

Chair Keny-Guyer and committee members, please support and promote legislative passage of HB 3122!

People with disabilities have a civil right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” in Oregon but they experience economic and societal barriers at every turn to experiencing these opportunities.

Your support for this legislation will help to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities on Oregon for generations to come!

Sincerely,



Bryan Trenkle

Executive Director

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