



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Elizabeth Edwards, Director
1221 S.W. Fourth Ave., Room 410
Portland, OR 97204
(503) 823-4130
Fax: (503) 823-3014

March 26, 2019

Representative Salinas, Chair
House Committee on Health Care
900 Court Street NE, HR E
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 3279

Dear Chair Salinas and Members of the Committee,

The City of Portland supports HB 3279, which requires payment parity for services provided for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment.

Issues related to addiction have cross-cutting impacts on housing and homelessness, public safety, and other City services. Portland works in partnership with other jurisdictions who provide public health support and services for individuals experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental health issues. The City recognizes that access to health plans that adequately cover mental health and SUD treatment is essential and supports efforts to achieve payment parity.

The City of Portland urges your support for HB 3279. Portland and other cities are on the front lines dealing with the impacts of behavioral health crises and we're committed to working with you to expand access to treatment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric Noll, Interim State Lobbyist
City of Portland