



April 4, 2019

Dear Chair Senator Gelser, Vice Chair Senator Heard, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Anna Keenan-Mudrick, and I am the Legislative Chair for the Community Providers Association of Oregon (CPAO), which represents over 20 agencies who serve Oregon's citizens who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in various parts of the state.

I am submitting this written testimony to communicate **CPAO's Support of Senate Bill 1039**.

What does this bill accomplish?

This bill clarifies and expands upon current health care decision-making-support protections for Oregonians who experience IDD, by clarifying roles and qualifications for Health Care Representative and Health Care Advocate, and by extending this support to anyone with IDD, whether they reside in 24/7 residential services, supported living, or in-home supports; in other words, to anyone who receives services authorized in an Individual Support Plan (ISP).

Why is this needed?

Our current Health Care Representative rules and regulations inadvertently cause confusion with doctors and health care facilities who are not familiar with our ISP team appointed health care advocate process, which at times delays critical medical treatment decisions. We look forward to this being clearly spelled out, and fully supported in statute, with passage of SB 1039, to ensure those who do not have a legal guardian and who do not have the ability to independently appoint a health care representative, still have a formal medical advocate/voice and the full range of options to consider.

Further, given that Oregonians with IDD can choose to be supported to live, work and be engaged members of their communities in any Medicaid recognized "home and community-based setting," regardless of complexity of support needs, the passage of SB 1039 is vital to ensuring the law appropriately evolves to include every Medicaid eligible Oregonian with IDD, regardless of where they choose to live, and regardless of severity of disability.

All Oregonians with IDD absolutely have a right to all medical treatments and procedures offered to any other citizen of our state; this absolutely **MUST** include those who require the support of others to help them make these medical decisions.

Please support passage of this critical legislation.

In Appreciation of Your Partnership and Support,

Anna Keenan-Mudrick, MSW  
Executive Director, Community Access Services  
Legislative Chair, Community Providers Association of Oregon