



**Testimony in support of SB 1552**

***Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics***

February 3, 2020

Dear Chair Roblan and Members of the Senate Committee on Mental Health,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), I am testifying in strong support of SB 1552 to continue the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) demonstration program through the end of the 2019-21 biennium, providing Oregon Health Authority the opportunity to evaluate the model's impact on access and quality of care in communities, and on cost savings to the medical and institutional components of the health care system.

CCBHCs are a type of behavioral health home, offering a comprehensive range of addiction and mental health services, physical health screenings and primary care. CCBHCs have invested in their workforce, data tracking and reporting, and other infrastructure developments to improve access to care and to evolve a more integrated, whole person approach. We believe CCBHCs represent the future of the behavioral health system and will show great outcomes given more time.

We urge you to support SB 1552 to move our state toward level setting CCBHCs with their physical health counterparts, patient-centered primary care homes, which will help us better implement bidirectional integrated care and transition to value based care/payment approaches, both of which are CCO 2.0 priorities.

Sincerely,

*Cherryl L. Ramirez*

Cherryl L. Ramirez  
Director, AOCMHP