Oregon Mental Health Consumers Association

"Nothing About Us, Without Us"



February 4, 2020

Chair Mitch Greenlick, House of Representatives Behavioral Health Committee Chair Andrea Salinas, House of Representatives Health Care Committee Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Mitch Greenlick and Chair Andrea Salinas:

We appreciate your leadership in working to establish the Behavioral Health Road Map Commission in Legislative Assembly with **HB 4082**, and would like to request an amendment to the current bill.

On Page 2 of the printed bill, on lines 6-8, we request inserting the following additional line in the bill: "(d) At least 20 percent of the membership of this commission shall be consumers of public behavioral health treatment services in this state, pursuant to ORS 430.075"

ORS 430.075 states "...at least 20 percent of the membership of all task forces, commissions, advisory groups and committees established by a public body, as defined in ORS 174.109 ("Public body" defined), shall be consumers, with representation balanced by age." (from: https://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/430.075)

ORS 430.075 helps ensure task forces, commissions, advisory groups and committees supported by the state will be proactively relevant and accountable, and not impeded by unrealistic wishful thinking and inaccurate assumptions that can occur when people with lived experience are included in work groups merely as marginalized tokens. With the addition of our suggested sentence, we look forward to seeing the insightful results of the work of the Behavioral Health Road Map Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know. Thank you for your work on this important bill.

Sincerely,

Kevin Fitts, Executive Director

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