

February 18, 2020

Chairperson Wagner, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and members of the Senate Education Committee:

I am providing testimony in support of HB 4140.

I am a retired Psychologist and now a consultant who worked for many years assessing and treating individuals experiencing acquired/traumatic brain injury. My reference framework for treatment is a process called Cognitive Rehabilitation, and I applied for and received Oregon approval for Cognitive Rehabilitation as a State evidence-based practice in 2006.

What I have experienced and is supported by research evidence is that a key factor for recovery after experiencing a brain injury is the support provided for adjusting to a routine post-injury. The quality of that support hinges on the awareness and coordination of a set of environmental factors by those in the support network as needed in each individual case.

The development of the form that HB 4140 addresses and its implementation will produce more effective adaptations by an affected student following a brain injury/concussion. It creates the potential for greater rehabilitation results by being available for hopefully reliable use. It can also serve as a vehicle for better detection of a student's need for referral for adjunctive care, such as trauma counseling or other difficulties with adapting.

Please pass HB 4140.

Respectfully,

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