



March 22, 2021

On behalf of the staff and board of directors of The Brain Injury Alliance of Oregon (BIAOR), the only statewide non-profit working with brain injury, I'm writing in support of Oregonians living with brain injury. Senate Bill 700 will fund a Brain Injury Resource Facilitation program in Oregon to help brain injury survivors find the help they need.

The goal of The Brain Injury Alliance of Oregon (BIAOR) is to serve those who need us and contribute to improving lives of those with brain injury. Two essential services that the Alliance offers, with a staff of three and 150 volunteers statewide, are the staffing of its Neuro Resource Facilitation Information and Referral Help Line and sponsorship of over 85 different support groups for survivors, spouses and children throughout the state. The Facilitation Information and Referral Help Line receives over 7500 calls, and 10,000 emails annually. In addition, 1520 customized packets are provided to people requesting information each year. Both services play an important role in providing useful information about brain injury services, referrals to medical and legal professionals to assist survivors, as well as much needed support and encouragement for those going through the head injury experience. Additionally, BIAOR hosts an annual 3-day multi-state conference and provides over 375 educational outreach programs to survivors, schools, military, community groups, professionals, family members, businesses, courts and prisons, state and local governments, and state and federal legislators. Our focus is to increase awareness of the impact of head injury and how it might be prevented. Funding for BIAOR is primarily dependent on donations and membership dues.

Senate Bill 700 would go a long way toward helping survivors of brain injury, their families, and caregivers get the resources and support they need when they need them. Other states have state funded Brain Injury Resource Facilitation programs. Oregon should, too. Please support Senate Bill 700. Thank you.

If you have questions about the services BIAOR provides and the individuals we serve, please contact us at 800-544-5243.

Sincerely,

Sherry Stock, ABD/PhD MS CBIST
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BIAOR is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 93-0900797