

# Oregon State Senate Bill SB686

## **Telehealth Choice**

(Inpatient and Secure Residential only )

(\*Amendment excluding Rural Designated Facilities)

# **SB 686 Endorsed by**

**75 people who signed the SB686  
online change.org petition**

**Mental Health and Addictions Association of Oregon (MHA AO)**

**Mind Freedom International**

**National Association of Mental Illness Oregon  
(NAMI Oregon)**

**New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS)**

# The SB686 Team

- We are a small group of concerned citizens who created this without any funding or ongoing technical assistance. We know from personal experience that choice heals in mental health care.
- **When our institutions, natural supports, families and friends, give us choices for the right support, safe spaces, and tools, we can heal.**

# The SB686 Team

- **Ann Kasper, MA, PSS** Warmline Operator, On Design Teams of Unity, CATC, and Multnomah Mental Health Court, Trauma Informed Care, ESL Instructor, Refugee Resettlement Coordinator
- **Nick Chaiyachakorn, PSS** Reed College Recent Graduate, Mental Health Activist, Support Group Leader, Warmline Operator
- **Nybelles Caruso, PSS** A Manager of Peer Services at Lifeworks NW
- Started with many youth advocates including Youth ERA, refugee, and BIPOC members

# **Psychiatric Care Facility Definition**

## **Care Cost to Patient / Insurance**

### **Inpatient Psychiatric Care in Private Hospitals**

~ \$1220 per night

### **Oregon State Hospital (OSH)**

~ \$1200 per night

### **Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)**

~ \$5025.00 per 24 hours

# Inpatient Telehealth -The Set Up

- Usually in a craft room, extra TV room, or closet
- Always 1 or 2 staff attendants present to watch equipment and take notes
- Patient may not know attendant
- No privacy with prescriber
- Screen can be a large screen or iPad size
- Sometimes technical WIFI difficulties
- Patients led in one by one like assembly line, usually do not which order
- We did not find any State of Oregon clinical standards on inpatient telehealth

# Who Uses Inpatient Telehealth

Unity Center for Behavioral Health

Coos Bay

McNary Secure Residential Treatment Facility

## **Not at this time**

Cedar Hills Hospital

Oregon State Hospital

Providence Systems

# The Problem – Real Life Examples

- 2 years ago in **Unity Center for Behavioral Health** (Monique)
- **2020 Oregon Patients sent to Rainer Springs in Washington State** (Ann)
- **2020** at a Secure Residential Facility (SRTF) at **McNary Place** (*Joe* blinded for 4 days because over-medicated)
- Governor Brown's **System of Care Council**  
Dr. Randy Phelps found children to be "Zombies"



# The Solution – Telehealth Choice

SB686 guarantees that you, as a patient, are given the choice and right to receive care from a live, in-person prescriber (psychiatrist, nurse practitioner, prescriber, etc.) on-site *when you are inpatient or in a secure residential setting.*

Not telehealth for outpatient or physical conditions

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# Senate Bill SB686

**Working on an amendment with the Legislative Council (LC) to exclude state-designated rural hospitals and facilities, as well as any other exceptions as needed.**

***We look forward to collaboration that honors the spirit of telepsychiatry choice.***

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# SB686

1. Good reasons for online telehealth care
2. Negatives of online telehealth care when inpatient or in a facility

# SB686

## Why is choice beneficial?

- **Trauma Informed Care**
  - **Trust**
  - **Choice Heals**

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# The Journey to Senate Bill SB686

**Spring 2020 - Large committee of youth and BIPOC, and refugees  
Oregon Youth Advocate Joseph Stepaneko came up with the choice aspect**

**Spoke with Senator Frederick who agreed to sponsor the concept**

**Contacted many in government and Disability Rights Oregon, received no  
guidance on how to write a bill**

**Met with many kind legislators to find out what the process is**

**Launched [www.choiceheals.com](http://www.choiceheals.com) Provided SB686 in Spanish and English and  
Launched Online Petition through Change.org [www.change.org/choiceheals](http://www.change.org/choiceheals)**

[www.choiceheals.com](http://www.choiceheals.com)

# The Journey to Senate Bill SB686

- **Contacted international academic researchers to get citations**
- **Met with OHA, Steve Allen and Analisese Dolph**
- **February 6, 2021 Wrote email to many hospital heads to ask for dialogue on SB686, only Cedar Hills responded**
- **March 11, 2021 Met with Oregon Hospital Association, asked for barriers for providing in-person prescribers in units, received citations**
- **Called many rural hospitals and secure residential facilities to come up with an amenable amendment**
- **Listened to the hospitals and decided to alter bill to address their concerns**

# Senate Bill SB686

Thank you

Choice does heal

**Mental Health Recovery is possible when institutions give us the right compassionate support, community safe spaces, and effective mental health healing skills.**

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