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May 5, 2021 (Post 5/4/20021 Public Hearing)

Additional Testimony AGAINST HB 2117

TO: Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health & Recovery
RE: HB 2117
POSITION: **AGAINST**

The Oregon Board of Psychology (OBOP) needs to be in the same room with OPPONENTS of HB 2117, so that House & Senate Committees can ask both parties questions which would clarify relevant facts, omissions from testimony, and opposing assertions.

The ONLY proponent on record of HB 2117 is OBOP. They have been represented by only two people - both OBOP staff. These are OBOP's highest ranking staff. Charles Hill and LaReé Felton.

These were the testimonial appearances of Mr. Hill and Ms. Felton:

1. House Committee on Behavioral Health Public Hearing on HB 2117, 2/3/2021.

LaReé Felton was the ONLY person to provide testimony, period. Charles Hill was present and did not testify on this bill, but he did sign his name to the register. Both Ms. Felton & Mr. Hill registered their position as “For.” No other witnesses signed the register.

Opponents were not aware that the Public Hearing was taking place, and therefore, could not show up.

The House Committee asked questions of Ms. Felton which she answered misleadingly - in the same way she provided her testimony. Mostly she lied by great omissions of information relevant to deciding the matter of the bill.

Because of OBOP's success in seeing to it that no opponents knew about the hearing, there were no opponents through which Ms. Felto's statements could be refuted or fact-checked.

Her 6 minute testimony can be viewed on OLIS. Go to HB 2117, click Public Hearing 2/3/2021, and then click that date again in the pop-up margin, or simply go to: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/mediaplayer/?clientID=4879615486&eventID=2021021092> Fast forward to minute 43:35 for Ms. Felton's HB 2117 testimony. It ends at approximately minute 50:50.

2. Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health & Recovery Public Hearing on HB 2117, 5/4/2021

To the VERY same effect, Charles Hill provided written testimony for the Senate Committee public hearing but neither he nor LaRee Felton showed up to answer any questions.

Mr. Hill submitted his written testimony only after 4 OPPONENTS had written and posted their testimony, on OLIS, against HB 2117. Mr. Hill refuted the accusations and statements which implied OBOP has deliberately kept opponents in the dark about the legislation.

But Mr, Hill, oddly, made himself scarce, as did Ms. Felton, when it came to making themselves available to the Senate Committee to answer questions LIVE in front opponents who could refute, add to, or reframe OBOP's statements or ask them to provide evidence for the sake of fact checking. As with Ms. Felton's testimony before the House committee on 2/3/2021, Mr. Hill's written testimony to the Senate committee is rife with relevant omissions and skewed assertions.

It is no accident that Mr. Hill and Ms. Felton have made it impossible for committees in either chamber to ask parties both "For" and "Against" HB 2117 questions in one another's presence.

Plea to Table HB 2117, Sunsetting the Psychologist Associate license-type.

There is nothing in the statements of Hill or Felton which would indicate that the passage of HB 2117 carries any urgency. It can wait.

Mr. Hill and Ms. Felton have stated that there is no fiscal nor revenue impact related to this bill. Money would not be lost by tabling.

Each and every OPPONENT testifies that they were deprived of notice of this legislation in all its stages. At least two of the the OPPOSING witnesses (besides myself) knew about this bill ONLY because *I* told them in the 11th hour.

In the Louisiana legislature there is a bill status called “Involuntary Deferment” which is usually invoked when there has been serious doubt cast on *procedural matters* surrounding a bill. It means a bill is tabled until the very end of the session IF there is time before *sine die*. Usually, there is not time and the bill is carried over to the next year’s session if the proponent’s still wish.

Please do not recommend “Do-Pass” on this bill. The procedure surrounding it is very unseemly and could compromise the public’s trust in government. Even the *appearance* of unseemly procedure can compromise the public’s trust.

Much better to wait & no reason not to.

Thank you so much for your time and patience.

Sincerely,

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