

Oregonians value their ability to choose their own providers when it comes to feeling better, acting in a more healthy way, and improving themselves. This bill will limit those choices as providers will have to register with the state and that puts an undue burden on the providers that some will not be able to meet.

-Pay an application fee: how much will this be? Who sets the fee – the for-profit group overseeing the registration? How often will it go up?

-Who determines scope of practice? Is scope of practice the same for a person teaching individuals how to calm themselves using breath work as it is for a person teaching company employees strategies to be more successful in their business?

-Meets any other requirements established by the office by rule: What are these? What burdens will they add to a provider? How much will it cost?

The language of who will have to register is extremely broad and basically covers anyone that isn't under some other type of state license or registration already, including clergy, shamans, and people using laughter therapy. As my 101 year-old mother-in-law pointed out, it would also include her as people come to her for advice and just to listen sometimes so they feel better.

A provider will need to be registered if they:

-address personal growth so a person feels more fulfilled

-support emotional change so a person feels more confident

-help someone modify their behavior so they get along better with friends, family, or co-workers

How much is it going to cost the state to pass this bill, set up the requirements, and develop and disseminate public education materials? With wildfire damage, COVID-19, people experiencing homelessness, and kids going hungry I think tax dollars are better spent elsewhere.

If a provider performs an act that is within the scope of a licensed, certified or registered entity there is already recourse – think “practicing medicine without a license.” There isn't a need for more regulation.

I understand that as of now HB2493 states that registering will be voluntary but if people don't register (and why would they, there's no advantage, just a cost) it will quickly become involuntary - otherwise it doesn't meet the stated objectives.

In this time when so many Oregonians are out of work should we be taking away more jobs, increasing the financial burden, and adding stress to the providers that are helping in so many ways?

I'm asking you to stop this legislation from going forward.

LC3591 Oregon Consumer Access and right to Practice Complementary and Alternative Health Care Act. (Working name: Safe Harbor Exemption for short) has guardrails that practitioners need to stay within and includes disclosures about what training and experience a practitioner has. If a practitioner violates these, then there is legal recourse with laws that are already in place. This is a viable alternative that 11 states have already implemented and many more are in the process of introducing and passing this type of legislation.