

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Rebecca Sherrick. I am a 46 yr. old mother. I was a corporate banker for 20yrs. My long story short is that I experienced childhood trauma and multiple, compound physical injuries including brain and back injuries as a young adult. I was in so much physical and emotional pain that my body was shutting down with illness, it was negatively affecting my family and my job. Years of traditional medical treatments were not helping me, including talk therapy and medication.

I turned to alternative care four years ago and it saved my life. I was suicidal. With the support and guidance of practitioners who became my mentors, I am thriving now. I became a Reiki Master, Certified Hypnotist and will be graduating school in August 2021 as an initiated Q'ero Medicine Woman. I have been working as the Director of Operations at Rising Fire Healing Center & School for the last two years.

I field 5-10 inquiries a week from people looking for help. They feel stuck, frustrated, angry, suffer from PTSD and other diseases. Our practitioners are booked out months in advance and our classes are regularly full. Our private sessions, classes and workshops help people.

I support anything that will make it easier and more affordable for all Oregonians to choose the best healing modalities for themselves. My questions about this bill are:

- 1.The bill indicates there is an emergency need. Why does it not address the following emergencies that affect all Oregonians, for example, more living-wage paying jobs, affordable traditional health care, solutions for houselessness, police brutality, food insecurity, improvements for PreK-12 education, improving the foster care system, voter rights?
- 2.Why should Oregon taxpayers pay for government oversight of a voluntary registration process? What is the benefit to the taxpayer? What is the benefit to the practitioner? What is the benefit to the client?
- 3.Because of this new legislation, will costs increase for practitioners? How will the practitioners make up for the added expenses, especially during these trying times? Will fewer clients be able to afford their services?
- 4.Who decides how to regulate philosophical and spiritual based practices? Wouldn't the US Constitution have to be amended to allow for combining of church and state? What gives the government authority over these practices? Who will regulate the regulators to ensure that integrity of the practices is intact?
- 5.How would these regulations affect the certification & licensing entities that already exist for some of the covered practices? There are also state and federal laws that regulate what we do and how we do it. We do not diagnose illness. We do not prescribe medications.

I ask you to focus funding and oversight on other emergencies that with could dramatically improve the lives of all Oregonians and do not proceed with this bill.

Thank you, Rebecca Sherrick, LHP, Reiki Master