

Dear Chair Rep Sanchez, Vice Co Chairs Rep Moore-Green and Rep Nosse and Members of the Committee:
I am expressing my support for SB 721 A. I have been a member of Oregon Consumer Advisory Council (OCAC) for 9 years and past chair for 4 years. OCAC is composed of members throughout Oregon who are leaders of many different mental health organizations in their communities. It is reasonable to expect self-determination and equity to be honored, as it is with any other organization or group, It would also seem reasonable OCAC would self govern membership choices and the direction of the Council's advocacy efforts but of course in collaboration with current defined needs of OHA (Oregon Health Authority). As with any organizational collaboration, all parties involved would operate from a perspective of parity. Parity would mean OCAC would have an equal right to self govern its affairs to then conduct of its' advocacy efforts with OHA . Up until now this has not been the case. A yes vote in support of this bill would address and correct this inequity.
Thank you all for considering my testimony
Sincerely

Mark Fisher OCAC member (2012 -present)