

SB 1528

February 7, 2022

Senate Committee on Health Care

Good afternoon Chairperson Patterson, Vice-Chair Kennemer, and members of the Senate Education Committee,

I am Dr. Jacek Haciaak, Director of DynamicChanges LLC. I am also a retired Psychologist and past administrator of mental health programs in four states including Linn County Mental Health Services in Oregon, and I have personal experience of living with mental illness and receiving services, and secondary experience of living with family members similarly affected.

For my testimony I draw from my formal training and experience providing Cognitive Rehabilitation treatment and neuropsychological assessment for individuals with traumatic and acquired brain injuries. I developed Cognitive Rehabilitation services at Oregon State Hospital, obtained Evidence-Based Practice approval for Cognitive Rehabilitation in the state of Oregon in 2006, and have consulted for agencies integrating these services.

I strongly support SB 1528. This bill would provide the system supports needed for an individual to understand and navigate options for treatment and support post-injury. It also would create an Advisory Committee to guide the Department of Human Services in developing an effective service continuum, and most importantly requires that the committee be comprised of one-third members having lived experience of brain injury. It is imperative that a substantial proportion of such advisory committees have first-person experience with the condition and the service systems to countercheck the design and actual effectiveness of well-intended services. Often our quantitative data analysis of system performance can produce evidence of services being provided well as designed, while a qualitative review of the outcomes from a consumer perspective can identify important issues still needing to be addressed that the quantitative data did not capture.

I believe that SB 1528 creates an opportunity for Oregon citizens to receive better coordinated support and care. Please move SB 1528 forward to full passage.

Thank you,

Jacek/Jack Haciaak, Psy.D., Director

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