

TO: House Committee on Health Care

FROM: Mark Retzlaff, Government Relations Chair

AMTA Oregon

DATE: February 7, 2022

RE: Support for HB 4132

The American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) is the largest non-profit professional association serving massage therapists, massage students and massage schools. The AMTA Oregon (AMTA-OR) chapter currently includes more than 2,000 members throughout Oregon.

AMTA Oregon is pleased to join other Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) providers in supporting HB 4132 which would both help improve processes and also open door to cost savings.

Licensed massage therapist health care services are often included in insurance plans, but some insureds and some small businesses are not easily able to take advantage of their benefits and access reimbursement for costs. Collecting much needed data on reimbursement practices and then requiring regular dialogue between representatives of CAM providers and the Department of Consumer and Business Services to improve the process for patients is key. Ongoing exchange will relay firsthand and directly the problems with reimbursement methods and the means of improving for all parties.

Helping patients access all care available to them, expediently and directly without extraneous general appointments and costs is vital to making the entire health care system work.

We urge your support and offer our assistance as needed.