



January 31, 2023

TO: Chair Grayber, members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

FROM: Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Affairs Manager, Jessica Pratt

RE: Support HB 2448

Dear Chair Grayber,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), representing Oregon's county governments, I am writing to you today to urge your support for HB 2448.

Background

Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities rely on their Community Developmental Disabilities Program case managers to ensure they are equipped to live full lives in their community. Case managers become trusted sources to connect a person with job opportunities, housing, and to see them safely through times of crisis.

Problem

I/DD case managers' role has become increasingly complex over the past twenty years since their job description was last reviewed which means the wage no longer matches the work we rely on them to do. This has led to high turnover and extreme difficulty in recruiting for open case manager positions. It also means the people they serve are losing and having to rebuild that critical trust relationship over and over again.

Solution

HB 2448 would require the Department of Administrative Services to review the classification, in partnership with I/DD case manager representatives, every six years. Accurate wage calculations will lead to living wages for these critical positions and bring more stability to the lives of people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thank you for your partnership to ensure the wellbeing of our community members with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Jessica Pratt
Legislative Affairs Manager
Association of Oregon Counties