



The Oregon Psychological Association Supports HB 2626

- By including psychologists in a tax incentive that includes many other practitioners it demonstrates parity between physical and mental health providers and encourages psychologists and other mental health providers to remain and serve in historically under-supported regions in Oregon.

- The bill incentivizes psychologists to serve communities where there is little, if any, access. According to HRSA data and republished in the following table by Kaiser Family Foundation, Oregon is only meeting roughly 26% of the need for those in areas that meet HPSA designation (please see the table below). Oregon ranks near the bottom in the United States in youth mental health care. One of the reasons being that, despite the cities of Portland, Salem, Eugene and Bend, the state is essentially a rural state.

Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs), September 2021		
	Percent of Need Met	Practitioners Needed to Remove HPSA Designation
Oregon	26.4%	95
United States	28.1%	6,559

Please Support HB 2626