

Submitter: Katie Emard

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2455

"My name is Katie. I am a Professional Counselor Associate working in a private practice in Portland, Oregon. I am writing to ask you to pass HB2455. Please end the abusive practice of insurance companies using audits as an income stream. Counselors deserve to know what is expected in audits so they can know how to document to pass them. Limits should be placed on audits so that providers don't have to live in fear simply taking insurance. I have seen how audits promote fear and financial hardship for providers. This year, I have seen clinics close due to unfair audit practices. Passing this bill will increase access to care in our state, as many clients cannot access care without insurance, and may increase the amount of providers willing to take insurance, giving clients more options and decreasing wait lists. Mental health care is lifesaving! Thank you,