AOC ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES

February 6, 2024

TO: Chair Kropf, members of the House Committee On Judiciary FROM: Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Affairs Manager, Jessica Pratt RE: Support HB 4001

Dear Chair Kropf and members of the House Committee On Judiciary,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties, representing Oregon's county governments, I am writing to urge your support for HB 4001, which will provide recommendations to the 2025 legislative assembly to improve and sustain specialty courts in Oregon.

Specialty courts are highly valued by the individuals and communities they serve, helping justice involved individuals with substance use disorders and other complicating circumstances enter into recovery and reconnect with their families and communities.

The current administrative and funding mechanisms for these courts make them difficult to manage and sustain year to year at a time when they are needed more than ever before. The HB 4001 taskforce recommendations to solve these problems are urgently needed.

AOC urges your support for HB 4001 and we thank you for your support for state-county shared services.

Jessica Pratt Legislative Affairs Manager Association of Oregon Counties