



A Global Disability Resource and Advocacy Center

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DATE: 2024/02/08

TO: Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response
Re: IDSP POLICY POSITION for HB 4036

ISSUER:

Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living (EOCIL) – Institute for Disability Studies and Policy (IDSP)

CONTRIBUTORS:

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GENERAL:

HB 4036: The Act increases the penalties for some drug offenses and creates new drug crimes. The Act also makes changes to treatment funding.

IDSP POLICY POSITION FOR HB 4036:

The IDSP research team concludes that the passage of HB 4036 has significant potential to be harmful to persons with disabilities from all demographic categories. HB 4036 would perpetuate trauma, increase incarceration and institutionalization, divert investment from trauma-responsive human rights-based services, and is not aligned with the values and priorities of Oregon's State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).

ISSUER BACKGROUND: EOCIL is a global cross-disability resource and advocacy center that promotes independent living and equal access for all persons with disabilities. EOCIL has two primary functions:

1. To operate the Institute for Disability Studies and Policy (IDSP). Through the IDSP's core research and policy officers, the IDSP provides original and scholarly actionable research for disability systems change to enhance independent living, equitable access to services and resources, and universal human rights.
2. To provide peer-based services to people with disabilities living in eastern Oregon. Based in Ontario, Oregon, with additional offices in Burns, La Grande, Pendleton, and The Dalles, EOCIL provides services to individuals with disabilities in 13 central and eastern Oregon counties: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler.

ISSUER DISCLAIMER: EOCIL receives Measure 110 funding in four eastern Oregon Counties to provide harm reduction and low-barrier housing services for individuals who use substances.