

Submitter: Lindsey Ramsey  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB61

Hello,

I am a licensed clinical social worker. I currently see adult clients in my own private practice. I worked in a Portland community-based mental health program for several years before beginning to work independently. I see several Medicaid clients currently for a variety of mental health concerns. I am urging you to support Senate Bill 61.

The current OHA audit procedures are deterring therapists from accepting Medicaid clients. The clawing back of funds already paid to mental health providers often happens due to small clerical errors that do not indicate fraudulent billing of public dollars. It unfairly penalizes providers and is simply unethical.

Unlike other insurance providers, OHA's approach creates unnecessary financial burdens on therapists, which ultimately limits access to care for Medicaid recipients. Therapists should be able to rely on a fair and transparent audit process, without facing confusing or conflicting demands.

I ask that you support Senate Bill 61 to prevent OHA from unjustly reclaiming funds that were rightfully earned.

Sincerely,  
Lindsey Ramsey LCSW