

Submitter: Kellyjoy Kanaley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2029

Dear Chairman Nosse and Members of the

House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care:

My name is Kellyjoy Kanaley and I have served Portland, Oregon as a Licensed Professional Counselor for the last 13 years.

I am writing this letter in support of HB2029.

Insurance audits are abusive and unfair and limit access to care to the people of Oregon. Please help stop this practice.

After hearing about my colleagues' experiences of being audited, sole proprietors in private practice like myself, being scrutinized over years of notes that although were accurate in their treatment, diagnosis and explanation of medical attention, these therapists having to pay their hard earned money Back to insurance companies due to clerical errors, time stamp errors and the like. Not to mention the amount of money it costs to secure legal representation should an audit need to be challenged... creates an incredible stress and anxiety. I Love what I do, I saw my first client in grad school in 2005 and have dedicated the last 20 years to the well-being of my clients. But the stress I am under, fearing the horror stories I have personally heard from other counselors in my field, sometimes pushes me to question if I need to get out of this profession I love. My life would greatly change if there were guardrails around what the insurance companies can do when auditing counselors. I would rest a little easier knowing that they could only go back a limited amount of time, and/or Have to give very clear instructions as to what they Need in my notes. The thought of spiraling into financial ruin because I have to pay back years and years of hard earned money for sessions because I didn't include in my notes details I had no idea I was supposed to document, is an undercurrent of stress that I feel would be greatly alleviated with the passing of this bill.

So my sincere gratitude for you supporting this bill.

Sincerely,

Kellyjoy