



*Our Mission: Arte Soleil, an East Portland studio and gift shoppe, celebrates community by providing an inclusive and encouraging space to connect, envision, and support local creative investments.*

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Date: 3/15/2025

Re: HB 3761 Art Therapy Insurance Reimbursement

To: Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Javadi, Vice-Chair Nelson, Rep Diehl, Rep Harbick, Rep Isadore, Rep McIntire, Rep Munoz, and Rep Pham,

As a graduate level art therapy instructor, clinical coordinator, and a certified supervisor for post graduate practitioners, I am writing to express my support for HB 3761. This bill will provide a supervised, provisional license for newly graduated master's level art therapists and allow Oregon Licensed Certified Art Therapists (LCAT) to be reimbursed for art therapy services through Medicaid.

Since mental/behavioral health agencies and LCAT practitioners are currently unable to bill for art therapy services, barriers are created for Oregonians to receive essential services to support their overall well-being. It further restricts low-income and underserved communities' access to care. Art therapists provide trauma-informed services that enhances emotional resilience, supports healing, and improves mental/behavioral health outcomes. This legislation will expand access to therapeutic mental and behavioral health services for State residents and empower a growing workforce of mental health professionals.

Your support of HB 3761 will also help reduce redundancy for new graduates and professional art therapists who currently need to hold multiple license types to practice as an art therapist and to receive insurance reimbursement. LCATs' training and oversight are comparable to other Oregon master's level mental health licensed fields with equivalent coursework, ethical practice, clinical supervision, and passing a board certification exam.

By supporting HB 3761, you are increasing access to essential mental health care in Oregon!

I appreciate your time and vote to pass such an important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Kristine Bella, LCAT, ATR-BC, ATCS

Business Owner/Art Therapy Supervisor: Arte Soleil, LLC (97236)

Art Therapy Clinical Faculty/Clinical Coordinator: Lewis & Clark College (97219)

Citizen and Art Therapy Advocate: Pleasant Valley Neighborhood (97266)