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The Northwest Health Foundation Trillium Family Services Trillium Community Health Plan Washington County Good evening, Co-chairs Kropf, Prozanski, members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. My name is Bo Brinson, and I am the Executive Director of Oregon Recovers, a statewide nonprofit organization committed to ending the addiction crisis in our state by increasing access to effective care.

We are here today in strong support of HB 2929, which modifies the membership, functions, and powers of the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission. As many of you know, the addiction crisis in Oregon continues to devastate individuals, families, and communities. We have witnessed the toll it takes in our cities and rural areas. As we work to address this crisis, it is crucial that we do so with a clear, coordinated strategy—and the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission plays a central role in that strategy.

HB 2929 will strengthen the Commission by expanding its membership to include a broader and more diverse range of voices. This includes those with lived experience, as well as those who have been deeply involved in the recovery and addiction care community. By diversifying the Commission, we will ensure that the policies we implement are not only informed by experts but also by those who understand the challenges and opportunities at the ground level.

This bill will also empower the Commission to function more effectively by enabling it to bring forward stronger recommendations and ensuring it has the resources and authority it needs to make a meaningful impact. The ultimate goal is to create a comprehensive, statewide framework for addiction recovery that provides everyone in Oregon the opportunity to access the care they need to heal and rebuild their lives.

At Oregon Recovers, we believe that addiction should be treated as a health care issue, and this bill moves us closer to creating a system of care that is compassionate, accessible, and effective. By passing HB 2929, you will help to ensure that Oregon is leading the way in the fight against addiction by helping to take us from

last to access, not only through the expansion of treatment services but through the development of innovative policies that promote long-term recovery for all.

Thank you for your leadership, and for your commitment to improving the lives of Oregonians struggling with addiction. We urge your support for HB 2929 and look forward to working with you to create a stronger, more resilient state for all.

Thank you.

Respectfully, Bo Brinson (He,him) CRM Oregon Recovers – Executive Director (971) 772-8307 1631 N.E Broadway #103 Portland, OR 97232

