

Submitter: Celeste Wolf

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2024

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Javadi and Nelson, and Members of the Committee,

I urge your strong support of HB 2024 to invest in behavioral workers!

Right now, both behavioral health workers and patients are suffering due to a lack of investment in our behavioral health system.

Republican policies have created over 4 generations of trauma survivors. We all experience COVID-19 PTSD and are suffering under an authoritarian regime. Oregonians need behavioral healthcare now more than ever.

HB 2024 would invest state funds into strengthening and diversifying our behavioral health workforce. This investment would allow behavioral health workers to stay where communities need them most, serving the Oregonians who need it most. It will also provide training and career advancement opportunities.

We cannot continue to underfund and under support behavioral health workers and hope for better outcomes. We cannot continue to undervalue the needs of behavioral health workers and the patients they support.

We must take action to strengthen our behavioral health system and ensure healing is possible for all Oregonians.

I urge the committee to support HB 2024 as a step towards investing in our behavioral health workforce.

Sincerely,  
Celeste Wolf  
Hillsboro, OR