

Submitter: Monica Huey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5526

To: Chairs Valderrama & Campos, and Members of the Committee?From: Monica Huey?Re: Testimony in Support of Regional Family Networks—Specifically CODSN?Date: 4/2/2025

Please support regional family networks.

My name is Monica Huey. I live in Redmond with my husband and two children. Our youngest experiences significant disabilities from an ultra rare genetic syndrome. One of the most challenging parts of having a child with a diagnosis is isolation and lack of resources. Our local family network helps in both regards. I have personally used CODSNs resources on numerous occasions. I participated in a transition to kindergarten program which prepared me for my daughter's first IEP meeting. And the executive director even spoke to me personally at length to answer specific questions. I also participated in an emergency preparedness program tailored to families with members experiencing disability. I've also joined numerous meet ups to create a community among other moms raising children with disabilities.

Regional Family Networks Change Lives—And Save Oregon Money

I am writing in strong support of Oregon's Regional Family Networks and to highlight the life-changing impact of the Central Oregon Disability Support Network (CODSN)—the Regional Family Network serving Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Lake, Klamath, and Wheeler counties.

CODSN is a trusted, family-led organization supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families across Central and Eastern Oregon. From the Warm Springs Reservation to remote Harney County, CODSN ensures families receive not only information—but genuine connection, advocacy, and culturally responsive support.

In the 2023–2024 year alone, CODSN:

- Provided resources and support to 3,655 families
- Reached 16,257 attendees through 228 trainings and events
- Activated 109 community partners to improve access and inclusion

In communities where families face deep systemic barriers—fragmented services, inaccessible education, and gaps in youth mental health—CODSN steps in to:

- Offer culturally and linguistically relevant support, including multiple Spanish-language groups
- Build inclusive, accessible spaces through sensory-friendly movie nights, resource fairs, and emergency preparedness events

- Provide disability awareness education to schools, healthcare providers, and local governments
- Deliver family-driven advocacy in over 150 statewide and regional committee meetings

Regional Family Networks like CODSN create lasting change. They improve outcomes, reduce family isolation, and help Oregon save money by preventing crisis and reducing system strain. These networks are smart investments—and critical supports for thousands of Oregon families.

We urge you to continue and expand funding for Oregon's Regional Family Networks. Our communities need them now more than ever.

Learn more at: www.codsn.org