



To: Chair Patterson and Members of the Senate Health Care Committee
From: The Coalition of Oregon Professional Associations for Counseling and Therapy (COPACT)
Re: Letter of Support for SB 824 -1 amendment
Date: April 3, 2025

On behalf of COPACT, I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 824 with the -1 amendment. COPACT represents licensed professional counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, registered associates, and students in counseling and marriage and family therapy programs across Oregon. As a partner of the Oregon Counseling Association (ORCA), our mission is to improve access to high-quality mental health care for all Oregonians.

We believe that the -1 amendment is a crucial step forward in enhancing the transparency and accountability of Oregon's health care system, especially in the realm of behavioral health services. By reinstating the reporting requirements from HB 3046 (2021), which sunset at the start of this year, the amendment ensures that insurance carriers provide critical data on benefit denials and reimbursement rates to the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS). This annual disclosure, broken down by geographic region and provider type, will provide essential insights into the functioning of the behavioral health system.

The reinstatement of these reporting requirements is vital for identifying regional disparities and understanding how reimbursement practices impact different provider types. Transparency in these areas will allow us to better assess the system's current state and make meaningful improvements, ultimately leading to improved access to care for Oregonians.



SB 824 with the -1 amendment will play a pivotal role in ensuring that Oregon's behavioral health system is more transparent, equitable, and effective for both providers and patients.