



**TO: Rep. Jason Kropf, Chair  
Rep. Kim Wallan, Vice-Chair  
Rep. Willy Chotzen, Vice-Chair  
Members of the House Judiciary Committee**

**FR: Melissa Marrero  
On behalf of the Oregon District Attorneys Association**

**RE: Support of House Bill 2467**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony from the Oregon District Attorneys Association in support of House Bill 2467.

ODAA supports House Bill 2467 and specifically the -3 amendment, which will make civil commitment in Oregon more accessible for individuals experiencing mental health crisis. The -3 amendment is the result of countless hours of work and negotiation, and we want to thank NAMI, the Governor's office, the Oregon Judicial Department and the civil commitment workgroup stakeholders for working this important concept to ensure that it accomplishes what was intended—which is to make it easier to commit individuals who desperately need help before devastating results occur or crimes are committed.

The -3 amendment provides important definitions related to what it means to be a danger to self and danger to others, and makes it clear that risk does not need to be imminent if it is reasonably foreseeable in the near future. This will be a workable standard that allows intervention when needed to ameliorate risk and danger, but is not so broad that it will be over-inclusive. Section 2 of the -3 amendment also lays out a non-exhaustive list of factors that a court may consider when determining whether someone is a person with mental illness in need of treatment, and whether they are dangerous to self or others. We would like to clarify that while the statute specifically delineates that recent acts or threats, and past behavior that resulted in prior involuntary hospitalization may be considered by the court, the intention is not to prevent the court from considering older acts, threats or behavior if relevant to the question before the court. It also does not mean that past behavior can only be considered by the court if it resulted in involuntary hospitalization. This section was intentionally drafted as a non-exhaustive list, and we would expect that the court could take all of these things into consideration as well as any other evidence that the court deems relevant and admissible.

While there are a few areas within the statute that ODAA believes could be further improved upon to make commitment even more accessible, we believe that House Bill 2467 is an important step in the right direction. Overall, we believe that the -3 amendment will make civil commitment in Oregon more accessible, and that it is a reasonable and responsible expansion of the statute.