



VANESSA CORNWALL

Intergovernmental Relations Officer
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DATE: February 3, 2026
TO: House Committee on Behavioral Health
FROM: Vanessa Cornwall, Lane County Intergovernmental Relations Officer
RE: HB 4083, Relating to Behavioral Health Care Providers

Dear Chair Pham, Vice-Chairs Edwards and Javadi, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Lane County, I submit this testimony in support of House Bill 4083. We have long identified access to behavioral health services as one of the most urgent needs facing our residents. Like many communities across Oregon, we experience workforce shortages, administrative bottlenecks, and fragmented regulatory processes that slow the delivery of care, particularly for individuals served through medical assistance programs. This bill addresses several of these challenges in a thoughtful and practical way.

First, the creation of a uniform, centralized credentialing process for organizational behavioral health providers is a critical step toward reducing unnecessary administrative burden. Counties and providers alike have struggled with duplicative and inconsistent credentialing requirements across coordinated care organizations. A single, statewide portal will streamline onboarding, reduce delays, and allow providers to focus their limited capacity on delivering care rather than navigating paperwork.

Second, HB 4083 supports workforce capacity by expanding allowable supervision across behavioral health license types. Providers consistently report that supervision requirements—while essential for quality and accountability—can unintentionally limit workforce growth when they are overly restrictive. Allowing appropriately licensed professionals to supervise across disciplines will help bring new providers into practice more efficiently while maintaining professional standards.

Finally, the bill's alignment of administrative and regulatory oversight under the Mental Health Regulatory Agency improves coordination and consistency across licensing boards. From a local government perspective, clearer lines of authority and centralized administrative support enhance transparency, efficiency, and system-wide accountability.

HB 4083 reflects the realities counties see on the ground every day. It reduces friction in the system, supports the behavioral health workforce, and helps ensure that Oregonians can access timely, effective care in their own communities.

ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BY VANESSA CORNWALL, LANE COUNTY
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS OFFICER