

Submitter: Melodie Kelly LCSW

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4083

Regarding House Bill: 8043

Position: Oppose

I am currently a practicing LCSW in the Portland metro area serving palliative care to patients within a medically assisted program. I have been practicing for over 20 years. I am also a registered supervisor who is currently providing supervision to CSWA's. I oppose supervision of social workers moving from BLSW to MHRA. I value the expertise and unique and valuable approach to clinical social work. Having social workers supervised by experienced LCSW's ensures professional competences, public safety and practice that adheres to our ethical code of conduct. I acknowledge the shortage of behavioral healthcare and significant need in our state, however I do not feel HB 8043 is the way to approach this shortage. I believe different disciplines within behavioral health come from various approaches and should be appreciated for their unique approaches to behavioral health.

In closing, I have just learned of this measure and received notification of this hearing only this morning. I do not believe it has given enough time for those of us working in the field to give thoughtful responses.

Melodie Kelly LCSW