

Submitter: KEvin Freeny

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4028

Dear Chair Pham and Members of the Behavioral Health Committee,
My name is Kevin Freeny, and I am a Professional Counselor Associate practicing at [Practice Name] in Portland, Oregon. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 4028.

As a small, independent mental health provider, I have experienced firsthand the growing burden of insurance audits and retroactive reviews. These processes have become increasingly frequent, time-intensive, and punitive, often hinging on shifting or ambiguous documentation standards. Even when care is ethical, clinically appropriate, and medically necessary, providers are left vulnerable to claim denials or repayment demands based on minor technical issues rather than the quality of care delivered.

This environment creates chronic financial uncertainty and significant professional stress. Like many colleagues, I have seriously considered leaving insurance networks—or the profession altogether—due to the constant risk of income loss. When clinicians are pushed out in this way, access to care is reduced and patients ultimately bear the consequences.

HB 4028 appropriately recognizes the imbalance of power that currently exists between insurance companies and small or solo mental health providers. The bill addresses the troubling pattern of retroactive denials and recoupments for legitimately provided services and introduces reasonable protections and clearer expectations for providers.

By establishing fairer standards and safeguards, HB 4028 will help mental health professionals remain financially viable, continue accepting insurance, and stay focused on delivering high-quality care to Oregonians. This legislation supports both providers and the communities who rely on us.

Thank you for your leadership and for your consideration of HB 4028. I appreciate your commitment to protecting access to mental health care across Oregon.

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