

Submitter: Maura Sullivan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4028

I am writing with strong support of HB 4028. I have been practicing as a licensed psychologist since 2003 and with an active OR license since 2018. I have always accepted insurance in my practice including 10 years as a NH Medicaid provider and an ongoing Medicare provider in both NH and OR. I feel that offering services through insurance is imperative in order to provide access to care for all individuals. Providing these services has become more challenging, less predictable, and more fraught with anxiety as insurance companies limit capacity to negotiate contracts, create more contractual limitations, and dissuade certain types of practice (longer sessions). I am dismayed to hear many new professionals being counseled away from providing services through commercial or other insurance but understand as it is intimidating to do so. I strongly believe that access to care will improve if professionals feel they have a voice and recourse in working with insurance companies for real parity, transparent practices, and the capacity to practice in a manner consistent with our clinical training not based on risk aversion. I have received countless letters indicating that I bill a longer session code with much more frequency than my colleagues and indicating I may be subject to audit based on this practice with no recognition of my clinical rationale for doing so. It is my hope that HB 4028 will allow professionals more support and pathways to practice without excessive time managing unneeded constraints.

Thank you for your consideration.

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