



February 3, 2026

To: Sen Gelser-Blouin, Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services  
From: Katie Rose, Executive Director, Oregon Community Brokerages  
Re: Support for SB 1532 omnibus bill sections on DD Services, Placement Decisions, and Restraint and Seclusion of Children in Care

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Chair Gelser-Blouin and members of the committee,

Oregon Community Brokerages is an association of the 14 Support Services Brokerages currently operating across the state of Oregon. We serve 7,700 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) living in their own or family homes, providing them with the case management and supports needed to connect them to community resources and direct service providers where they live. Support Service Brokerages have over 20 years of experience supporting adults with IDD to recruit, hire, and manage direct support providers.

As case management entities serving a population of Oregonians using services that continues to grow, we are always open to refinements in rules and practices that will support the system to run better and people to get what they need when and how they need it. We welcome this omnibus bill as an attempt to do just that. Our comments are confined to the sections on Developmental Disabilities Services (sections 4-6), Placement Decisions (sections 7-14), and Restraint and Seclusion of Children in Care (Section 15).

### **Developmental Disabilities Services**

Section 4: Removes reporting requirements currently in place regarding turnover, training provided, core comps, and average wages. We support any reduction in redundant reporting requirements that bog down our system. Provider turnover, training, and wages are all critical metrics, but they are captured elsewhere in survey and data gathering work required by rule. When providers can ease their administrative burden, they can refocus that time on the people they serve.

Section 5: Adds definitions for “attendant care services” and “provider of community-based services” for the purpose of the existing reporting outlined in the section. Looks to broaden existing reporting requirements to apply to all provider types of attendant care services/community-based services. The metrics included in the reporting outlined here are

related to health and safety, and we support making sure that people served by all types of providers are considered in this evaluation.

Sections 6: Compels the Oregon Department of Human Services to adopt a differentiated rate model for providers who reside with their clients in the course of setting rates for providers of attendant care services who serve clients with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Section 6 also specifies terms and conditions for those differential rates as follows:

- The rates should reflect the reduced overhead cost to the agency that employs providers working in the same household as the person with IDD being served.
- This action cannot result in a reduction in the number of hours a person is eligible to receive.
- This differentiation cannot result in the reduction of wages to the provider.

Oregon has seen a steady increase in agency provider services for several years. Brokerages were founded on the commitment to being good stewards of the public funds that we authorize and oversee. As such, we applaud the intent behind this section to ensure that any funding going toward these services enriches the lives of the people served and the stability and security of the workers supporting them. No one wants to see Medicaid funding misused. While we have not had the time to consider all impacts of this legislation, we support this plan to align administrative funding with administrative output.

### **Placement Decisions**

While most of these sections do not fall directly under IDD services, we support the clarifications with regard to when, how, and under what monitoring terms providers located outside of Oregon's jurisdiction and control may be used to serve Oregonians. Consent and reasoning for placement decisions critical considerations for any placement into care.

### **Restraint and Seclusion of Children in Care**

This section stops ODHS from substantiating an allegation of abuse against a person for restraint of a child if the sole basis for that finding is the lapse of the person's certification related to safe crisis intervention and de-escalation. While Oregon's Brokerages are not currently able to serve people under the age of 18, we support this logistical clarification and the reduction in harmful and unnecessary abuse substantiations in our field.

Thank you for the opportunity to support SB 1532 and its positive contributions to human services in Oregon.