

Submitter: Judy Tuttle Zollner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4028

My name is Judy Tuttle Zollner and I have been a Licensed Professional Counselor for 31 years and I am also the co-director at Salem Pastoral Counseling Center. I am also a member of WOMHA and try to pay attention to legislative actions that are important to our profession.

I want to ask you to please support HB 4028, the Behavioral Health Protection Bill. Over the years I have continued to see a very intrusive interference from insurance companies which has hindered our ability to provide mental health services and has created an atmosphere of fear and confusion. These coding advisor programs have questioned therapists on their coding implying that they need to downcode more of their patients. This intrusive control of our profession must be stopped. There needs to be much more transparency and honesty in the methods used by insurance carriers and they need to be required to identify the medical management practice being applied, its purpose and whether it may trigger an audit.

HB 4028 has been identified as a way to identify and resolve some of these critical issues that have interfered with mental health providers doing their job as effectively as necessary. I truly hope that you will support HB 4028.

Sincerely,

Judy Tuttle Zollner