

AOC ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES

March 25, 2025

TO: Chair Nosse and members of the House Committee On Behavioral Health & Health Care

FROM: Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Affairs Manager, Jessica Pratt

RE: Support HB 2015-2

Dear Chair Nosse and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties, representing Oregon's county governments, I am writing to ask for your support for HB 2015-2 to remove administrative barriers to sustainable residential treatment facilities across the state.

County boards of commissioners are the Local Mental Health Authority, with the duty to administer Oregon's mental health policies, adopt a local plan to serve community needs and provide oversight and accountability of our state-county shared services. Counties partner with the Oregon Health Authority to provide behavioral health services and supports that help our communities thrive and reduce avoidable state hospital stays and involvement with law enforcement and the courts.

Currently, residential providers are held to operational requirements that compromise safety and drive up costs and liability risks. HB 2015-2 establishes a process to resolve these issues and support the growth and stability of residential treatment capacity statewide.

The Association of Oregon Counties asks for your support for the local behavioral health safety net with HB 2015-2 and we thank you for partnering with counties to serve all of Oregon.

Jessica Pratt
Legislative Affairs Manager
Association of Oregon Counties