

Rosenberg Corey

From: Brad Larsen-Sanchez, PsyD <brad@portlandmh.com>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 8:47 AM
To: SHS Exhibits; Sen Gelser; Sen Olsen; Sen Dembrow; Sen Knopp; Sen MonnesAnderson
Subject: Support SB 860

Dear Senators -

As an early career psychologist and the owner of a group psychology practice, Portland Mental Health, I can't express strongly enough the need for the enforcement of mental health parity laws with insurance companies in Oregon.

Time and again, with seeming increasing frequency, our patients are having mental health benefits limited by their insurance, they get misleading benefit information prior to selecting a plan only to find out they don't have the access to mental health care that they thought they did, or they find out after getting mental health care that their portion of the cost is far more than they were initially led to believe.

As a provider, insurance companies are finding ever new ways to coordinate with one another to limit what they pay us. I can be contracted with insurance company X at a certain agreed upon rate, but then somehow through their relationship with insurance company Y which has a relationship with insurance company Z, they're going to pay me only the rate that company Z offers, which is much lower. It's a game they're playing that leaves us spending lots of time and money chasing after payments.

True Mental Health Parity in Oregon is good for patients, good for providers and good for business. And really, why are we even having to establish a law that enforces parity for mental health care. We know now that adequate mental health care leads to a reduction of medical care costs. It's just that simple!

Mental Health Parity now!

Thank you so much!

Be well,
Brad

Brad Larsen-Sanchez, PsyD
Licensed Psychologist

The logo for Portland Mental Health features the word "PORTLAND" in a large, teal, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a circular graphic consisting of concentric, slightly irregular lines, resembling a ripple or a stylized eye. Below "PORTLAND" is the word "MENTAL HEALTH" in a smaller, teal, sans-serif font.

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Preferred Pronouns: He, Him, His

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