



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Human Services

Addictions and Mental Health Division

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TO: The Honorable Laurie Monnes-Anderson, Chair
Senate Committee on Health Care and Veterans Affairs

FROM: Len Ray, Administrator
Adult Mental Health Services
Addictions and Mental Health Division
Department of Human Services
503-945-9704

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 368

Chair Monnes Anderson and members of the committee, I am Len Ray, Administrator, Adult Mental Health Services, Department of Human Services, Addictions and Mental Health Division. I am here to testify on SB 368.

This legislation would direct the Department of Human Services to establish a Consumer Advisory Council, an Office of Consumer Affairs, and an Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health Consumers.

The Office of Consumer Affairs established in the bill would help the division provide oversight and technical assistance to consumer-operated programs that provide evidence-based services. In addition, an Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health Consumers would help ensure prompt and focused delivery of quality improvement to program areas in need of closer monitoring and improvement.

The Addictions and Mental Health Division supports and encourages self-determination of persons with a mental illness. The provisions of this bill further promote self-determination and are consistent with division's recovery and trauma policies. We are supportive of the policy in this bill; however, there is a fiscal impact on this bill that is not included in the GRB.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am available for any questions the committee may have.

If you need this letter in alternate format, please call 503-945-5763 (Voice) or 800-375-2863 (TTY)

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