



06/24/2021

Timothy G. Sekerak

Chief Clerk of the House

State Capitol Building, H271

Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation on HB 3045

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

On June 24th, 2021 I voted "Yes" on HB 3045, and I wish to explain for the record that I voted yes due to my fervent support for access to mental healthcare and yet I have a strong philosophical opposition to bills that disproportionately protect some classes of patients over others.

The overall cost of drug prescriptions has been on an exponential rise, and is the fastest growing expense of any other medical good or service. We must address accessibility to affordable medications across the system and should do so with a coordinated and thoughtful approach.

Continuing to pass legislation that singles out fields of the healthcare system or classes of patients sets a precedent I am uncomfortable with. We should focus on making all areas of healthcare more accessible and more affordable and I will continue to push for policy that keeps that top of mind while I continue to discourage carve-out policies in the future.

Sincerely,

Representative Maxine Dexter, M.D.

House District 33 (NW Portland and NE Washington County)