

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
HB 849 Public Health - Medical Records - Fees  
March 24, 2021  
Senate Finance Committee

My name is Terry Shenk. I work as a SOAR Specialist. SOAR assists those who have a severe, chronic mental health diagnosis and are facing homelessness to apply for SSI and SSDI. In order to have documentation to support our claim of disabled, we must request records from all current and past providers. At times the number of sources needed is great.

The consumers have no means to pay for these records and those who work with the SOAR program work for nonprofit organizations. These fees are a burden on the agencies that must pay in order to get the required evidence for their consumers to be approved for benefits. It is vital that these low income, no income individuals have the opportunity to obtain needed information from their providers. I support HB 849 and encourage your support.