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February 21, 2025

Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor
Nevada State Legislature
401 S. Carson St.
Carson City, NV 89701

Submitted electronically to: SenCL@sen.state.nv.us

RE: Support for Senate Bill 47 – Behavioral Health Coverage Study

Dear Chair Pazina and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor,

On behalf of Cure 4 The Kids Foundation (C4K), Nevada's premier pediatric specialty treatment center dedicated to children with cancer and rare diseases, we write to express our strong support for Senate Bill 47 (SB 47), which provides for a study on the parity of behavioral health coverage in public and private insurance plans across Nevada.

As a nonprofit organization committed to ensuring comprehensive and equitable care for all pediatric patients, we recognize the critical role behavioral health services play in the overall well-being of children facing life-threatening illnesses. Many of our patients experience significant emotional, psychological, and cognitive challenges related to their diagnoses, making access to behavioral health services essential for their treatment and long-term outcomes.

Despite federal parity laws, we continue to see inconsistencies and barriers in insurance coverage for behavioral health services. This disproportionately affects families navigating complex medical conditions, leaving them to either pay out-of-pocket for essential care or forego services entirely. SB 47 is a crucial step toward addressing these disparities by identifying gaps in coverage and ensuring that behavioral health services are treated equitably alongside other medical treatments.

We commend the bill's emphasis on:

- Evaluating parity compliance among insurers to ensure behavioral health coverage aligns with other medical benefits.
- Requiring data transparency to assess the true impact of insurance policies on patient access to care.
- Encouraging evidence-based policy changes to improve behavioral health access for Nevada families.

We urge the committee to support SB 47 and its efforts to bring greater equity and accountability to behavioral health coverage in Nevada. We also encourage consideration of pediatric-specific needs within this study to ensure that children, especially those with complex medical conditions, receive the behavioral health care they require. Cure 4 The Kids Foundation stands ready to collaborate in these efforts and welcomes the opportunity to contribute to discussions that advance pediatric healthcare in our state.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to improving healthcare access for all Nevadans. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to your support of this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annette Logan Parker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Annette Logan Parker
Founder, Cure 4 The Kids Foundation
alogan@cure4thekids.org