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OREGON CASA NETWORK
Court Appointed Special Advocates

SB 123
Rights of Youth in Foster Care

The Oregon CASA Network strongly supports SB 123. The 1,915 Court Appointed Special Advocate Volunteers serving children & youth in all 36 counties bear witness to the fact that children living in foster care do not know that they have rights. We have seen children abused in foster care, treated like second class citizens and lose their voice or be afraid to use it.

SB 123 is one step towards ensuring that children living in foster care are safe, have their basic needs met and have a chance to live a “normal” life by ensuring that they understand their rights and know where to go to ask for help if they need it.

Oregon needs to provide a formalized grievance process for foster youth when they feel that their rights are being violated, that their needs are not being met or that their voice is not being heard. We also support providing a hot line number that foster youth can call to ask questions, report grievances or find help navigating the complex bureaucratic system they find themselves in at no fault of their own.

Please support SB 123. Let children & youth living in foster care know they have rights and a voice.

Mission: Strengthen CASA Programs in Oregon.

Vision: CASA Programs will have sustainable resources to advocate for all children who are victims of neglect and abuse in Oregon.