



Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association

Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments

www.ojdda.org

- Debra Patterson, President
- Faye Fagel, President Elect
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OJDDA
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**Oregon's Juvenile Department Directors urge you to Vote Yes on
HB 2192-A, so that all youth have an opportunity to learn and succeed.**

HB 2192-A will help disrupt the "School-to-Prison Pipeline," in which students who have been suspended or expelled are more likely to drop out and more likely to end up in the justice system.

Youth who are struggling need more attention, supervision and support, not less. Excluding students from school often leaves them unsupervised, where they are more likely to get into trouble or to be victimized themselves.

Expelling a student from school can break one of the most important pro-social bonds in the life of a troubled youth. Schools are the safest place to be for all students, in spite of the rare and sensational stories that appear in the news media.

HB 2192-A will lead to improved school district policies which:

- Align Oregon's mandatory expulsion policy with federal law (18 U.S.C. 921). The current statute requiring mandatory expulsions is confusing and inconsistently applied, leading to expulsions for minor infractions.
- Establish discipline, suspension and expulsion policies which:
 - o Protect students and school employees from harm;
 - o Provide opportunities for students to learn from their mistakes;
 - o Foster positive learning communities;
 - o Keep students in school and attending class;
 - o Impose disciplinary sanctions without bias against minority students;
 - o Implement a graduated set of age-appropriate responses to misconduct that are fair, nondiscriminatory and proportionate in relation to each student's individual conduct;
 - o Propose alternative programs combined with counseling prior to expulsion;
 - o Use expulsion as a last resort and limit suspension and expulsion to only the most serious offenses involving behavior which cause a serious threat to safety;
 - o Use approaches that are research based and shown effective at reducing student misbehavior while maintaining safe and productive social behavior.

OJDDA urges your support for HB 2192-A!