



Marion County
OREGON

Board of Commissioners

February 17, 2015

Dear Members of the House Human Services and Housing Committee:

We enthusiastically express our support for **House Bill 2031**. The measure will establish a demonstration project in Marion and Multnomah Counties that keeps youth safely in their communities through intensive in-home services. Services in other states have garnered strong outcomes, diverting youth from more expensive state custody and changing family dynamics. In-home family interventions:

(503) 588-5212
(503) 588-5237-FAX

**BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

Sam Brentano
Kevin Cameron
Janet Carlson

- Are less disruptive
- Are less expensive
- Address the family system, not just youth behaviors
- Benefit siblings
- Intervene sooner, avoiding costs associated with child welfare, recidivism, juvenile detention, and state residential commitment.

**CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER**

John Lattimer

Marion County is home to four of fourteen state correctional facilities, two state juvenile corrections facilities, and the Oregon State Hospital. Our county population of state and local inmates is the highest per capita rate of any Oregon county. The Marion County Sheriff's Office operates the third largest jail in Oregon. Marion County also has the state's second largest Hispanic population and the largest number of Hispanic youth in the juvenile justice system. These factors influence the social conditions for families in our communities. House Bill 2031 will help Marion County improve the lives of families and youth, paving the way for other counties to do the same.

We urge the committee to support House Bill 2031.

Sincerely,

Janet Carlson
Chair

Kevin Cameron
Commissioner

Sam Brentano
Commissioner