



# Keizer Police Department

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February 20, 2015

The Honorable Chip Shields, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Jennifer Williamson, Co-Chair  
Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety  
900 Court Street  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee:

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB5542

I am hoping OYA will continue to lean into its programs, making decisions that are known to be in the best interests of its youth and the public. Because much of its good work—the Youth Reformation System and the Feeder System Study are two examples—needs to keep its inertia, I am hoping you will support no less than current funding.

OYA increases public safety by holding offenders in close custody, but, very importantly, OYA reduces recidivism, preventing future crime and victimization, by improving the lives of its youth both while they are in custody and beyond.

OYA makes sensible and wise use of its aging facilities; nevertheless, even a cursory look affirms the conclusions of the *10-Year Facilities Plan for Close Custody*: OYA facilities are ill-suited to the OYA mission and vision and are in significant need of attention. Good stewardship, the present and future of the youth in OYA custody, and public safety all cry for attention to OYA facilities; subsequently, I'm hoping you will endorse and fund the *10-Year Facilities Plan*.

Thank you, sincerely,



John Teague  
Chief of Police