



Four Rivers Early Learning Hub

500 Court Street
Moro, Oregon 97039

*Working together to give all children an equal start – across Gilliam, Hood River,
Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler Counties.*

March 3, 2015

RE: SB 213

Senator Sara Gelser, Chair
Human Services and Early Childhood Committee

Dear Senator Gelser,

The Four Rivers Early Learning Hub is working to achieve official Hub recognition from the Early Learning Division in April. We have spent months identifying strategies and aligning services across our vast five-county region including Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties.

This letter is to convey to you our support for Senate Bill 213, the bill to make Hubs permanent. It is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Human Services and Early Childhood Committee soon and is critical for successful implementation of the regional strategies.

There has been considerable change in the early childhood system in recent years. With the move from Commissions on Children and Families to the formation of Hubs, we have spent enough time reorganizing. It is time to direct our energies to implementing the strategies we have outlined and working with partners to achieve identified goals.

Please review the proposed legislation and recognize that children across Oregon cannot wait another second for all energies to be directed towards their needs. We have a new system. Let's make it permanent and get to the work at hand. We will be anxiously awaiting your support to move SB 213 out of committee and for swift legislative approval.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gary Thompson', written over a white background.

Judge Gary Thompson, Chair