



Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association

Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments

www.ojdda.org

- Faye Fagel, President
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The Oregon Juvenile Directors' Association and Youth Rights and Justice would like to support some components of HB 2425. OJDDA has been involved in conversations with the Department of Corrections, the Oregon Youth Authority and Youth Rights and Justice over the past several months trying to determine a sensible solution for the request identified business needs of DOC. Under current statute, once a youth's file has been closed in the juvenile system, release of information becomes much more restrictive. We believe all parties are in agreement that youth transferred directly from the custody of OYA to the DOC should have treatment, prognosis and other youth history provided to DOC at the time of the transfer. This allows DOC to determine placement, treatment and potential release options when the youths' sentence has been completed.

During conversations another key area in DOC's request was for arrest/referral information. Currently DOC has access to the Juvenile Justice Partner System (JJPS) which provides all the referral history of juveniles entered into the Juvenile Justice Information System with the exception of dependency referrals. This information will aid the DOC's need to gather information for the purpose of determining risk in their system. JJPS also provides other identifying information as well as information about parents such as name and address.

It is the suggestion of OJDDA and Youth Rights and Justice that HB 2425 be amended to focus on the youth moving from the OYA's custody directly into DOC custody allowing the OYA to transfer information regarding youth history, referral history, treatment and prognosis. We would further suggest that the DOC, OYA, OJDDA and Youth Rights and Justice continued to work together to pull apart the needs of the DOC for additional juvenile records for cases that are with or have history with county juvenile departments. The group could then recommend further changes in statute during the 2016 Legislative Session to provide the DOC with relevant information to serve their business needs.

Sincerely,

Torri Lynn OJDDA

Mark McKechnie Youth Rights and Justice

For additional information, please contact Lara Smith, (503) 804-9750