

February 16, 2017

The Honorable Jackie Winters, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Duane Stark, 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:

This letter is in support of SB 5042, the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) budget and bond funding for the continuation of OYA's 10-Year Strategic Facilities Plan. OYA protects the public by holding youth accountable and providing a safe environment for evidenced-based treatment services, education and reformation.

While here in OYA I have made a drastic change in my life; a whole 180. Without OYA I would never have finished high school or started college. Without Hope Partnership I would have never changed. It is because of the skill building, community connection, and personal growth that I have done with Hope Partnership/Janus Youth Programs that this change was possible.

Thank you

R.M.  
Youth at MYCF