

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.

I am incarcerated in MacLaren and as of recently I've noticed a change in the atmosphere of OYA and I noticed that those changes coincided with OYA going to a Positive Human Development Practice (PHD).

One of the most beneficial programs that is funded is Hope Partnership which is under Janus Youth Programs, Inc. The program operates inside of MYCF. It has been instrumental in my development as a person and it has helped me help others. This program is so instrumental that I would go as far as saying that Hope Partnership saves lives.

Sincerely,

W.M.  
Youth at MYCF