



Clatsop County

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February 22, 2017

Oregon Youth Authority
Director: Fariborz Pakseresht
530 Center St. N, Suite 500
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Pakseresht:

We write to express our opposition to the current plan to close the North Coast Youth Correctional Facility in Warrenton.

Clatsop County has a small population which makes the economic impact of the NCYCF very significant for our county. The annual payroll and local purchases of approximately \$6 million make the NCYCF one of the most important economic drivers in this County. We are equally concerned about the likely loss of talented individuals who will lose their jobs in this closure and will very likely be forced to seek employment outside of Clatsop County.

In addition, many local governments and community groups have been working together to establish a comprehensive system of support for the youth of Clatsop County. For example Clatsop is one of only five counties in the United States chosen to participate in the Way to Wellville program and also recently was awarded a \$350,000 grant from the US Department of Education to study the feasibility of establishing universal pre-school. The closure of this facility is inconsistent with the message that resonates throughout Clatsop County that children and youth are a priority.

We urge you to find alternatives to closing the NCYCF that maintain this important facility in Clatsop County.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Scott Lee – Chair

Commissioner Sarah Nebeker – Vice-Chair

Commissioner Lisa Clement

Commissioner Lianne Thompson

Commissioner Kathleen Sullivan

Cc: Senator Betsy Johnson
Governor Kate Brown
Representative Debbie Boone