

**NORCOR**  
**Juvenile Detention**  
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To whom it may concern:

The Juvenile Department Directors of Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman, Wasco County and the management of NORCOR Juvenile Detention Facility urge your support of Senate Bill 368. Youth held in custody at detention facilities prior to court disposition frequently require medical treatment; in fact, it is often at the detention facility where the youth's unmet medical needs are first discovered. Medical staff in Oregon's eleven detention facilities identify and are obligated to provide treatment for medical, mental health, substance abuse and dental needs for any youth lodged in a detention facility. Further, they often refer these youth and their families to ongoing care in the community after their release. This serves to address their immediate needs and enhance the overall care they receive.

Currently, the cost of medical and treatment needs falls to the detaining county of jurisdiction where the youth resides; placing an unfair burden on county budgets, which are not prepared for these unpredictable and significant costs. Pre-adjudicated youth are often covered by insurance plans at the time of their incarceration, though current law still excuses the insurance companies from paying for those billable expenses. Essentially, youth are not allowed to access a service that they or their families have already paid for, despite having no disqualifying adjudication at that point. Senate Bill 368 would require insurance companies to reimburse counties for the cost of the medical services provided in detention prior to adjudication. This would be a logical and critical amendment, and one consistent with the recent private insurance rule change applied to adults in jail.

Please support SB 368 to maintain coverage of private insurance benefits to pre-adjudicated youth in Oregon's detention facilities. A more integrated and equitable system will be the result.

Thank you,

NORCOR Juvenile Director Oversight Committee;

Vicki Winters, Juvenile Department Director Gilliam County  
Jim Patterson, MSW, Juvenile Department Director Hood River County  
Amber DeGrange, Juvenile Department Director, Sherman County  
Molly Rogers, Wasco County Youth Services Director  
Jeff Justesen, Manager, NORCOR Juvenile Detention Facility