

Rosenberg Corey

From: KIRK Christine <Christine.Kirk@oya.state.or.us>
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2017 11:21 AM
To: SEN Gelser
Cc: SEN Olsen; SHS Exhibits; KIRK Christine
Subject: SB 243

Hello Senator Gelser,

I would like to note two items of policy interest in SB 243. As you know, the Oregon Youth Authority certifies youth offender foster homes and proctor homes. SB 243, expands the definition of child abuse to certified foster homes, certified by the Department of Human Services, but it does not to youth offender foster homes, certified by the Oregon Youth Authority. In order for this change to impact all foster youth/homes, a definition of certified youth offender foster home, as certified by the Oregon youth Authority and subject to ORS 420.888 to 420.892, would be in the definitions. Also, wherever certified foster home is written, certified youth offender foster home would be included.

It seems the policy interest would be to have all children in foster care to be protected/subject to the same definition of child abuse. If I am mistaken, I would appreciate understanding the policy intent.

Also, we noted confusion in lines 16 to 29 on page 4, (4)(a) and lines 1 to 7 on page 5, (3). Foster homes do not have employees but foster parents, either for making a report or relating to who is or is not present in an investigations. Clarification may be needed.

I appreciate your review of these policy issues. Please let me know if there is anything specific you need from the Oregon Youth Authority concerning youth offender foster homes.

Thank you,
Christine

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