



# OregonFosterYouth C O N N E C T I O N

## HB 2216 –Sibling Bill of Rights [Amendment]

After talking to OFYC Members, the Department of Human Services Child Welfare, and other stakeholders we have identified a few changes.

House Bill 2216 will soon have an amendment that addresses these changes:

- To include the definition of sibling, as already in statute
- To have rights explained to each sibling and available for them to read
- To have rights “as safe and appropriate” for each individual sibling
- To have a “safe and appropriate” conversation if siblings cannot be placed together or have limited contact
- To have sibling involved in the creation of the Sibling Contact Plan
- To have the Sibling Contact Plan reviewed regularly
- To ensure siblings have these rights even if their parent’s rights have been terminated
- To have caseworkers educated in the importance of sibling relationships, in addition to foster parents
- To remove the “mandated” relationship after adoption, but to ensure a conversation about the importance of sibling relationships in adoption and guardianship plans

**The Oregon Foster Youth Connection** - is a youth-led group of current and former foster youth working to improve the foster care system through advocacy, activism and leadership.

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