



From the Desk of
**Representative
Carla C. Piluso**

Oregon Foster Youth C O N N E C T I O N

HB 2216 – Sibling Bill of Rights

Almost 8,000 children are in Oregon's foster care system. Despite federal law requiring that siblings be placed together whenever possible. Nearly 75% of siblings who enter foster care end up being separated from at least one of their siblings.

Sibling relationships are critically important to the healthy development for overall well-being of children and youth over the course of their entire life. The Oregon Foster Youth Connection is asking for your support of the Sibling Bill of Rights - **HB 2216**.

HB 2216 provides the following:

- Placement of siblings together whenever possible and appropriate
- Maintenance of sibling contact with the development of:
 - A contact plan with youth participation
 - Transportation whenever possible
 - More privacy and less restrictions on sibling communications

"I grew up watching other kids fight over insignificant things with their siblings, wishing they could be an only child. While I would have given anything to have my brother back.

-Celestina, age 16



- Training for foster parents and case workers on the importance of sibling relationships
- Notification of placement changes or important events affecting a sibling

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