



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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Testimony in support of HB 4082

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HB 4082 Supports Evidence Based Practices and Programs with Measurable Outcomes

- HB 4082 is a legal fix needed to allow the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and county juvenile departments to share youth data for the purposes of research, program evaluation and audits.
- Current state law is silent on sharing juvenile information for anything other than case planning for a youth currently getting services.
- OYA and the county juvenile departments have long been committed to having effective programs, external validation of their work, and validated risk tools.
- HB 4082 creates a way to release data for research similar to what exists in other laws such as HIPAA and FERPA.
- The bill states who and what types of organizations records can be released to in order to limit potential releases outside of the intent of this law change.
- The bill ensures confidentiality protections for juvenile records are maintained by specifying that persons who receive these records are responsible for preserving confidentiality.

HB 4082 Supports the Strong Collaboration between OYA and the County Juvenile Departments

- The existing longstanding partnership between OYA and the county juvenile departments in developing rules and policies around the use of the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) will be codified in law.
- Law will state, as opposed to just rule and practice, that OYA and the county juvenile departments work through a steering committee to administer JJIS.

HB 4082 has an emergency clause so that the agency and departments can resume sharing data, as such efforts were halted upon learning of the risk due to the absence of language in state law

In addition to this testimony about HB 4082, I would like to provide one clarification for the record on how this bill relates to public and private colleges and universities.

Section 2(4) of the A-Engrossed bill adds public and private institutions of higher education to the list of entities with whom OYA and counties may share data.

I want to clarify that our intention is for data to be disclosed to these recipients for a specific purpose as permitted by law, administrative rule and articulated in a memorandum of understanding or contract between the agency or departments and the specific institution of higher education. Agreements limit the scope and use of data as well as prohibit the further release of such information.

The proposed law changes do not impose additional obligations or expectations of public and private colleges and universities to access data. Information accessible to such institutions would be limited to the specific research or program evaluation question and other requirements to protect the data and adhere to the scope outlined in MOUs or contracts with the agency or departments.