



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

February 7, 2019

The Honorable Jennifer Williamson, Co-Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

Regarding: House Bill 2042

Co-Chairs and members of the committee, I am Heidi Steward, Assistant Director of the Correctional Services Division for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I am here to testify in support of HB 2042 and answer any questions.

What the Bill Does:

HB 2042 eliminates the sunset date on temporary law and makes permanent law authorizing the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and county juvenile departments to disclose and provide copies of reports and other materials to DOC for individuals in the department's legal and physical custody

Background Information:

DOC staff are currently allowed access to juvenile records as authorized under ORS 419A.257. However, legal authority to access these records is set to sunset January 1, 2020.

Access to juvenile records is essential in order to adequately case manage individuals sentenced to the legal custody of DOC who have previous juvenile records. This includes individuals:

- Committed to DOC and in the physical custody of OYA;
- Entering DOC directly from OYA; or
- Under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court at the time of committing their adult offense.

The sunset date was extended by HB 2248 (2017) to January 1, 2020, to allow the OYA and county juvenile departments additional time to monitor DOC's access to juvenile records.

Issues Addressed by the Bill:

This bill allows DOC continued access to juvenile records, ensuring the best continuity of care and case management for those in the care and custody of DOC.

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Requested Action:

For the reasons explained above, the department asks this committee to vote HB 2042 out of committee with a do-pass recommendation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Submitted by:

Oregon Department of Corrections

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