I strongly support SB 969. As a parent and grandmother I realize how individual and susceptible young people are and what foolish things they do as kids. We now have scientific evidence that their brains and judgement do not mature until they are older. Therefore it is important that judges should have the power to decide whether a teenager should be tried as a youth or with a special hearing, sent to the adult system.

Growing up in the community would be more successful than being incarcerated in the adult criminal system.

I urge a yes vote on SB 969 and thank you for your work on these important issues.

Thank you, Amy Jo Butler 2034 NE 40th Ave. #212 Portland OR 97212

Sent from my iPad