



Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association

Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments

www.ojdda.org

- Jim Goodwin, President
- Molly Rogers, President Elect
- Debra Patterson, Treasurer

OJDDA
305 NE 3rd St.
Prineville, Or. 97754

OJDDA Supports Senate Bill 1546

The Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association (OJDDA) supports legislation aimed at ensuring juvenile justice reforms to Measure 11 that were passed in the 2019 legislative session are operationalized effectively.

OJDDA supports creating an exception to the 28-day limit for detention of youth that are pending waiver hearings. In cases where a motion for waiver to adult criminal court is filed, the current time limits on pre-adjudication will be insufficient to adequately prepare for these hearings. *While we support this exception, OJDDA is concerned with removing all timelines related to these hearing due to the possibility for these youth to languish in detention indefinitely. We recommend data be tracked and analyzed by the SB1008 work group, and used to inform future legislative recommendations.*

OJDDA supports the ability for youth to waive 10-day and 30-day review hearings. When youth are facing long periods of time in detention, it can be disruptive and upsetting for them to frequently appear in court only to be told nothing has changed and they will remain in custody. The ability to waive review hearings will allow youth to avoid unnecessary court appearances. It is important, however, that youth only be permitted to waive one review hearing at a time in order to assure they continue to have regular contact with their attorney and their case continues to move forward expediently.

OJDDA supports extending the frequency of detention review hearings to 30 days for youth pending a waiver hearing. The process of preparing for a waiver hearing is complex and time-consuming, including the review of large volumes of records as well as the potential for multiple psychological evaluations. Additional time between review hearings will allow the parties to have more comprehensive information to present.

OJDDA supports waiver hearings proceeding in the county in which the act is alleged to have occurred. Clarifying the venue for waiver hearings will provide consistency across jurisdictions, create efficiencies in the handling of cases involving multiple co-defendants, and ensure that victims are able to be meaningfully involved in waiver hearings.

OJDDA supports extending the age of commitment to a youth correctional facility for youth adjudicated for certain offenses. Specifically, youth who are adjudicated for serious acts that, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime listed in ORS 137.712 (1), may need a longer period of supervision to demonstrate their reformation and ability to remain safely in the community. Extending the possibility of youth correctional facility commitment to age 20 will provide adequate opportunity for these youth to engage in juvenile services, and allow for commitment in the event that it is determined that a higher level of intervention is needed.

OJDDA urges your support of SB1546.

For Further Information Contact

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