



February 4, 2020

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
HB 4040: Related to Family Treatment Court**

Clackamas County supports HB 4040: The Board of County Commissioners supports HB 4040, which establishes a Family Treatment Court (FTC) Program in certain counties – including Clackamas – to improve outcomes in child welfare cases resulting from parent’s or caregiver’s alleged substance use disorder.

FTC programs are voluntary, and designed to support parents with untreated substance use disorder, and who need to receive treatment, counseling, and other support services. FTC participants will benefit from accountability through regular court appearances.

Over 500 Clackamas County children spent time in foster care during 2018, and we estimate a Clackamas FTC could serve 40-45 families per year. Safety concerns arising from a parent’s substance use disorder contribute to 70% of placements in foster care in Oregon. HB 4040 will help reduce the numbers of children being put into the foster care system, and keep families together while also keeping them safe.

We urge a “YES” vote for HB 4040.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.