



MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Oregon State Senate
Date: March 23, 2021
By: Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst
Re: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments

LPRO: LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICE

GOVERNOR'S CHILD FOSTER CARE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Governor has appointed the following individual to the Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Appointees

Casey Dreher of Cottage Grove; New Appointment

Term

Dreher: April 19, 2021 – April 18, 2025

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 418.041 \(2019\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Statutory Requirements³

The commission consists of 11 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.⁴ Members serve four-year terms and at the pleasure of the Governor. Members must be residents of the state with experience and expertise in the foster care system, including but not limited to:⁵

- foster and biological parents and children involved in the foster care system in this state (LINHARES, McNEELY);
- representatives of advocacy organizations that advocate regarding issues pertaining to the foster care system in this state (HIESLER, LLOYD-ROGERS);
- representatives of public, private, profit and nonprofit agencies, organizations and other entities with experience in, interest in and responsibility for the provision of care to children in the foster care system in this state (DONART, TOURÉ);

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2019\)](#), [ORS 171.565 \(2019\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2019\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2019\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2019\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 418.041 \(2019\)](#).

⁵ [ORS 418.043 \(2019\)](#).

- members of the Oregon State Bar with expertise in family and juvenile dependency law (**DREHER**);
- representatives of law enforcement agencies and district attorneys (VACANT);
- former employees of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority and Department of Justice who were responsible for the administration and oversight of the child welfare and foster care systems in this state, including but not limited to former caseworkers and former court appointed special advocates (CRUZ);
- representatives of the Judicial Department in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (VACANT); and
- representatives of federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon and organizations serving Native Americans (CRUZ).

The commission must meet at least once every three months. The members of the commission shall select one member to serve as chairperson and another to serve as vice chairperson, for terms and with duties and powers necessary for the performance of the functions of the offices as the commission determines. A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

Duties and Authority

The commission advises the Governor and the Director of the Department of Human Services regarding the foster care system in this state.⁶ The commission must study and report to the Governor and director with respect to:

- legal and policy issues pertaining to the foster care system in this state;
- monitoring accountability in the foster care system by measuring outcomes;
- necessary and recommended improvements to the internal operations of the department;
- recommendations to improve and expand the availability of foster care and, where applicable, to provide alternatives to foster care for children who need care and services;
- promotion of responsible statewide advocacy for children in foster care; and
- ongoing review of foster care providers in this state and the identification of barriers to the provision of quality care and services to children in the foster care system.

The commission must consider reports, findings and recommendations that have been or will be issued by legislative and agency task forces, work groups and committees that have undertaken study, review or oversight of the foster care system in this state.⁷

The commission may:⁸

- establish any advisory or technical committees the commission considers necessary to aid and advise the commission in the performance of its functions; and

⁶ [ORS 418.044 \(2019\)](#).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

- adopt rules to carry out its statutory mission.

Executive Appointments Board Roster

Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission

Agency: Governor's Office
Authorization: HB 4080
Members: Min: 11 Max: 11
Term Length: 4 years Limit: 2
Senate confirmation required? Yes

Policy Area: Human Services

Board Contact:
OR

Current Appointments:

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Caroline M Cruz Member of the Tribes and former DHS employee Term(s): 12-19-2016 - 06-30-2019	Position Number: 1
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Robin C Donart Member of private org Term(s): 07-01-2017 - 06-30-2021 12-19-2016 - 06-30-2017	Position Number: 6
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Casey S Dreher, JD Member of OSB Term(s): 04-19-2021 - 04-18-2025	Position Number: 5
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Pamela L Heisler Member of an advocacy org related to foster care Term(s): 11-25-2019 - 06-30-2022	Position Number: 8
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Jessica L Lloyd-Rogers Member of an advocacy org related to foster care Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024 11-25-2019 - 06-30-2020	Position Number: 3
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Jessica L Lloyd-Rogers Member of an advocacy org related to foster care Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024 11-25-2019 - 06-30-2020	Position Number: 3
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Charlie McNeely Former foster youth Term(s): 09-28-2018 - 06-30-2022	Position Number: 9
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Mamadou Toure CASA Representative Term(s): 03-01-2021 - 06-30-2022	Position Number: 7
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Executive Appointments Board Roster

Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Policy Area: Human Services

Vacant Appointments:

Pos	Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
2	Tracy M Powell, PhD Member of a public org related to foster care	Governor	11/25/2019	06/30/2021
2	William R Wagner Member of public org related to foster care (CRB)	Governor	07/01/2017	06/30/2021
2	William R Wagner	Governor	12/19/2016	06/30/2017
Pos	Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
4	Timothy J Colahan Member of Oregon District Attorneys office	Governor	07/01/2017	06/30/2021
4	Timothy J Colahan	Governor	12/19/2016	06/30/2017
Pos	Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
10	Alan Linhares Former foster youth	Governor	07/01/2020	06/30/2024
10	Alan Linhares Former foster youth	Governor	05/25/2018	06/30/2020
10	Denise Loraditch	Governor	11/17/2017	06/30/2020
10	Christine M Hartmann	Governor	12/19/2016	06/30/2020
Pos	Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
11	Jessica D Riutzel-Schmidt Foster parent with experience in Oregon foster care system	Governor	09/28/2018	06/30/2019
11	Lluvia M Merello	Governor	12/19/2016	06/30/2019