



Trauma Informed Oregon

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TO: Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

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SUBJECT: SB 720

Chair Prozanski and members of the committee I am here as part of Trauma Informed Oregon to share our continued support for the Family Preservation Project with SB 720.

Trauma Informed Oregon (TIO) is a statewide collaborative aimed at preventing and ameliorating the impact of adverse experiences on children, adults, and families. Trauma Informed Oregon works in partnership with providers, individuals with lived experience, and families to promote and sustain trauma informed policies and practices across physical, mental, and behavioral health systems and to disseminate promising strategies to support wellness and resilience.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), toxic stress and trauma are recognized as a public health crisis. Adversity, trauma, and toxic stress includes the negative experiences that come experiencing abuse and neglect, living in poverty, incarceration, family separation, and exposure to racism and discrimination. The relationship between being involved in the judicial system, trauma, substance use, systemic oppression, and poverty is dynamic and well documented. Addressing adversity and the significant negative impacts on families and communities means supporting strategies across the continuum from prevention to treatment.

Having a parent incarcerated is an adverse experience that is often not experience alone. Programs that both mitigate, and reverse negative impacts - as well as strive to prevent incarceration and family separation are necessary.



The CDC recommends the following strategies to address adversity:

- Strengthen economic supports to families
 - Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity
 - Ensure a strong start for children
 - Teach skills
 - Connect youth to caring adults and activities and
 - Intervene to lessen immediate and long-term harms
- [\(Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences \(cdc.gov\)\)](#)

The goals and strategies of the Family Preservation Project outlined in SB 720 are aligned with these data driven CDC recommendations - as well as strategies in Oregon's State Health Improvement Plan, and are consistent with HCR 33 that was unanimously passed in 2017 and directed agencies in Oregon - including the department of justice and department of corrections to *become informed regarding well-documented short-term, long-term and generational impacts of adverse childhood experiences, toxic stress and structural violence on children, adults and communities and to become aware of evidence-based and evidence informed trauma-informed care practices, tools and interventions that promote healing and resiliency in children, adults and communities so that people, systems and communities can function at their full capacity and potential in school, in the workplace and in community, family and interpersonal relationships;...*

Preventing and reversing the negative impacts of ACEs means promoting coping strategies that support young persons to flourish and preventing long term health outcomes such as asthma, arthritis, COPD, depression, and cardiovascular disease. In a study just released the ACEs reported by adults in 2013 in California were associated with an annual 10.5 billion in excess personal healthcare spending. ([Adult health burden and costs in California during 2013 associated with prior adverse childhood experiences \(storage.googleapis.com\)](#))

SB 720 outlines strategies that are aligned with Oregon's work to prevent adversity and promote wellness. Providing multi-generational, trauma-informed, culturally responsive programming to mothers who are incarcerated and their children can simultaneously provide prevention and intervention outcomes that will be experienced across generations.

Thank you for this time.
Mandy Davis and Ana Hristic.