

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

I would like to raise awareness of the fiscal impact to the Oregon Youth Authority of SB 817 due to the removal of parental support obligation for youth offenders in OYA custody. We understand the need and value of the discussion. Child support for youth committed to us is always a difficult conversation to have with parents, and as Senator Manning noted in the testimony for the previous bill, SB 422, this has a disproportionate impact on the BIPOC community. Youth of color make up approximately 45% of our population as opposed to 20% of the community. Any impact to the families of youth in our care, has a disproportionate impact on people of color.

The projected revenue, and therefore fiscal impact, is \$1,020,080 for FY 21-23. The actual fiscal impact would need to be adjusted to the implementation date. The Department of Justice, Division of Child Support, collects the child support. We do not use any of the funding for administrative cost. All goes directly to the cost for services to youth committed to our care. The projections have about 1/3 of the funding covering costs of youth in facilities, and the other 2/3 for youth are in residential or receiving other community services. While the revenue from child support would be eliminated from this bill, the demand for services will not be. Therefore, to maintain current services, OYA would need additional general fund allocation to offset the loss of revenue from this bill.

Respectfully,
Christine Kirk
Oregon Youth Authority