

March 22, 2021

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners Policy Position HB 3366: Related to Family Treatment Courts

Clackamas County supports HB 3366: The Board of County Commissioners supports HB 3366, which establishes a Family Treatment Court (FTC) Program in certain eligible counties 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 abuse disorder, and who need to receive treatment, counseling, and other support services. FTC participants will benefit from accountability through regular court appearances.

Hundreds of Clackamas County children spend time in foster care every year, and we estimate a Clackamas FTC could serve many of those families and provide a meaningful alternative to the traditional case management in child welfare cases. HB 3366 would help to reduce the number of children being placed into the foster care system, reduce the length of time children remain in care, and keep families together while also keeping them safe.

Should a family treatment court be established in Clackamas County, the program also would benefit from the institutional knowledge of county staff who provide drug and mental health services.

We urge a "YES" vote for HB 3366.

Please contact Chris Lyons at <u>clyons@clackamas.us</u> for more information.