



PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD

2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION HB 2804 INFORMATION SHEET

MISSION

The Psychiatric Security Review Board's mission is to protect the public by working with partner agencies to ensure persons under its jurisdiction receive the necessary services and support to reduce the risk of future dangerous behavior using recognized principles of risk assessment, victims' interest, and person-centered care.

Juvenile Panel

Caseload:

5 individuals
8 New Cases Since 2020

Programs:

Responsible Except for Insanity

Hearings

2022 = 4
2023 = 5
2024 = 3

Adult Panel

Caseload:

640+ individuals

Programs:

Guilty Except for Insanity
Extremely Dangerous Civil
Sex Offender Class/Relief
Gun Relief

Hearings

2022 = 366
2023 = 320
2024 = 361

Questions/Opposition?

We look forward to a collaborative process! For more information about this bill or the PSRB, email psrb@psrb.oregon.gov or call 503-229-5596.

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Purpose of Proposed Legislation

The Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) is statutorily required by ORS 161.385(6) to maintain two separate five-member panels: one for juveniles and one for adults. All members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Juvenile Panel manages a small caseload of just five individuals while the Adult Panel manages a caseload of approximately 640 individuals, resulting in a disproportionate allocation of funding and training resources. The PSRB's average juvenile caseload over the past eight years has been five.

HB 2804 consolidates the panels into a single, unified Board while ensuring both juvenile and adult cases continue to be managed appropriately. This legislation reduces unnecessary costs, and allow the agency to better serve all individuals within its programs. A senior Board member position is added to the agency's structure to strengthen succession planning, support strategic initiatives, and ensure quorum.

Problems Associated with Maintaining Separate Juvenile Panel

- ⇒ **2021 Workgroup Report:** Report contains comprehensive overview of the problem (p. 65).
- ⇒ **Training & Expertise:** The lack of a caseload hinders the Juvenile Panel from developing key administrative law and procedural competencies related to managing hearings, evaluating evidence, assessing credibility, and applying the legal framework necessary for the fair and consistent application of due process in hearings.
- ⇒ **Laptops:** Each member requires a State-issued laptop, which must remain operational and secure regardless of the REI caseload or frequency of hearings.
- ⇒ **Software Subscriptions:** Each laptop must be equipped with Microsoft 365 licenses, and the agency must maintain file-sharing licenses for each Board member.
- ⇒ **Overhead:** The Juvenile Panel requires its own designated hearing day, even though the caseload is minimal. This involves scheduling, coordinating, and managing specific dates for juvenile hearings. A separate hearing docket must be maintained for each month, whether they are filled or not.

Safeguards to Mitigate Opposition Concerns

Discussions with key stakeholders ODAA, OJD, YRJ, and OYA reveal they are generally neutral or supportive of this proposal. The main concern communicated by stakeholders relates to how the agency plans to retain the specialized youth-related expertise in Board decision-making. The Board notes that current and proposes members have juvenile experience. Further, embedded in this legislation, the PSRB plans to reallocate the funding used for laptops, subscriptions, overhead, and stipends associated with maintaining a separate panel to be spent on training and consultation to ensure all board members are appropriately trained to handle juvenile-related matters. Additional options the legislature might consider in a dash one amendment:

- ⇒ Permit statutory board positions with criminal justice *or* juvenile justice expertise.
- ⇒ Require at least one Board member to have substantial juvenile justice experience.
- ⇒ Create a seventh Board position, dedicated in a specific discipline with substantial juvenile justice experience who would be required to sit on juvenile hearings, with exceptions when needed, and otherwise authorized to sit on other matters.