

OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & UTLATION

MEASURE: HB2237

DATE: 2/20/15 PAGES:

HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES & HOUSING

EXHIBIT: 7.1

February 20, 2015

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer Chair, House Committee on Human Services and Housing Oregon State Capitol, H-280 Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: House Bill 2232

Representative Keny-Guyer,

On behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs (ORCOPS) and our 1,700 members, I would like to offer our support for House Bill 2232, to form a committee especially focused on services and needs for at-risk, runaway, and homeless youth.

As public safety officers, our members often find themselves addressing issues around homeless youth as front-line service providers. However, we feel that the collaborative and coordinated process envisioned by HB 2232 – formerly existing as the Oregon Commission on Children and Families – is a preferable method of addressing these challenges.

ORCOPS and its members stand ready to assist at both the local and State level. We believe that earlier and more coordinated intervention to problems faced by runaway and homeless youth will yield better outcomes – for the youth themselves, for taxpayers, and for the community-at-large.

Thank you for your work on this issue.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: Rep. Nancy Nathanson House Committee on Human Services and Housing