

## Legislative Fiscal Office

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## Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Sen. Richard Devlin, Senate Co-Chair  
Rep. Nancy Nathanson, House Co-Chair

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Vice Chair  
Sen. Jackie Winters, Senate Co-Vice Chair  
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Vice Chair  
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

**To:** Ways and Means Full Committee

**From:** Public Safety Subcommittee

**Re:** HB 5042 Oregon Youth Authority

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**Senator Winters:** “HB 5042 is the budget bill for the Oregon Youth Authority. The Youth Authority protects the public and reduces crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments. The agency serves youth ages 12 through 24 who have committed serious delinquent or criminal conduct prior to their 18th birthday.

The Public Safety Subcommittee approved an all-funds budget of \$358.8 million, with 1,023 positions and 950.68 FTE. This budget represents a 9.9% reduction from the 2015-17 legislatively approved budget, but includes several changes that support continued implementation of the legislatively approved Youth Reformation System, an evidence-based means of improving outcomes for youth in OYA’s custody. The \$310.4 million General Fund budget adds six positions to reduce the use of isolation as a sanction, adds \$1.8 million of ongoing funding for the Young Women’s Transition Project in Albany, and creates five positions to expand vocational education and training for older youth.

This budget also addresses declining referrals to OYA. It closes the 50-bed North Coast Youth Correctional Facility, saving \$8.1 million General Fund; it reduces funding for community treatment beds by a total of \$29.7 million, of which \$15.9 million is General Fund; and it eliminates fifteen vacant positions, reducing Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$2 million.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends HB 5042 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.”