

PROTECT KIDS YES ON HB4112



HB 4112 IS ABOUT MAKING SMART INVESTMENTS TO PROTECT OREGON'S KIDS FROM CHILD ABUSE.

The Centers for Disease Control estimates that nationally, 1:7 kids will experience abuse this year. Without intervention, child abuse leads to poor health and economic outcomes.

You can help.

PREVENT

Erin's Law Curriculum

Help schools teach safe touch and prevent abuse

- The 2015 Legislature passed Erin's Law, which requires schools to teach child abuse prevention programs, like safe touch. However, a lack of easily-adoptable curriculum has left some schools unable to comply with the new law.
- Oregon Department of Education currently only has .5 FTE dedicated to supporting all 197 Oregon School Districts in this area.
- HB 4112 increases ODE staffing by 1 FTE to support school districts in developing and implementing child abuse prevention curriculum.

DETECT

Oregon Child Abuse Prevalence Study

A one-time investment to expand a successful pilot project

- The Oregon Child Abuse Prevalence Study (OCAPS) is Oregon's effort to comprehensively measure and monitor child abuse and neglect.
- OCAPS is the most comprehensive child abuse prevalence study in the U.S. – and was piloted successfully in 5 Lane County school districts in 2019.
- OCAPS answers questions about child abuse rates – and will track changes over time – in a way that has not been possible at any time in Oregon's history. OCAPS is a new, best practice tool to shape legislative decision making and measure the impact of legislative investments.
- OCAPS is a one-time ask. The University of Oregon has agreed to waive all F&A/indirect costs.

INTERVENE

Increased Investment in Children's Advocacy Centers

Ensure access to services for kids who have been abused

- Children's Advocacy Centers provide medical exams, forensic interviews and follow up treatment to kids who have been victimized, or who were witness to a crime.
- But, current state funding for Centers is only at 17%, which means that kids in need are being turned away and waitlists are growing.
- Prosecutors, law enforcement, and caseworkers all depend on the statutorily mandated services Centers provide.
- When kids aren't able to access a Center, they have to undergo medical exams from under-trained professionals, and have to tell their stories many different times, to many untrained people. This impedes their chance at justice, and adds to their trauma.
 - 2019 investments in additional caseworkers significantly increases the need for Centers. DHS Caseworkers do not have medical expertise, and depend on the findings of Centers to make informed safety determinations.
- Children who have access to Centers have better long term outcomes.
- On average, using a Center saves \$1000 a case.

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The 2019 House Human Services Committee voted the three concepts in HB 4112 as their top funding priority.

Our 2020 Supporters include...

