

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Youth Authority supports SB 54. This bill is a partner to OYA's SB 83. Each clarify the respective organization's role in providing juvenile crime prevention funding to the counties. Neither of these areas of law had been updated in some time. As both areas of law needed updating, each bill does more than align funding streams. These bills help bring alignment between practices, standards and laws, as well as set a better legal framework for future work.

The Oregon Youth Authority, Youth Development Division and the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors Association worked to make sure the authority and funding were in the right place, and ask how we use the legal foundation to help better support collaboration, transparency, and effectiveness. To that end, both SB 54 and SB 83 have similar language that sets forth rulemaking. SB 54 states that YDD shall "review local high-risk juvenile crime prevention plans and ensure alignment of the plans with diversion plans and basic services grants of county juvenile departments. For purposes of this subsection, the council shall adopt rules in consultation with county juvenile departments and the Oregon Youth Authority." SB 83 states that, "[t]he youth authority, in consultation with county juvenile departments and the Youth Development Division, shall adopt rules to coordinate and align the high-risk juvenile crime prevention plans, the juvenile diversion plans and the juvenile crime prevention basic services."

SB 83 has already been approved by this committee and had its third reading. It will await SB 54 in House Judiciary where they can move through the rest of the process together. I appreciate your review, consideration, and support.

Respectfully,
Christine Kirk
Oregon Youth Authority