

CIRCUIT COURT OF OREGON

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT CLACKAMAS COUNTY JUVENILE COURT OREGON CITY, OR 97045

(503) 557-2841 FAX (503) 557-2866

COLLEEN F. GILMARTIN JUDICIAL HEARINGS REFEREE

March 19, 2021

Chair Anna Williams Vice-Chair Leif View-Chair Ruiz House Committee on Human Resources 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 3366

Dear Chair Williams, Vice-Chairs Leif and Ruiz, and Members of the Committee:

I am the full time Juvenile Court Judge Pro-Tem for Clackamas County. I write to convey my strong support of House Bill 3366. Prior to taking this position in 2018, I served as a Deputy District Attorney in Clackamas County for fifteen years; thirteen of which I spent specializing in dependency cases. Through this combined experience I know the immense and long-term benefits Family Treatment Courts can provide to justice-involved children and families.

Each day I see the harmful effects of substance use on families and the efforts to engage parents in services through the traditional dependency court process. Implementation of Family Treatment Courts through House Bill 3366 will reinvigorate this process by providing families with a structured, multidisciplinary approach of treatment, accountability, and supportive opportunities. Combining these specialized drug treatment services with the support of intensive judicial involvement and oversight by experienced juvenile judges will make a tremendous difference in the success of families and their futures. Here in Clackamas County we are prepared to make this investment with your support.

With Family Treatment Courts children are less likely to be placed in foster care and parents are more likely to be successful in their treatment - meaning the promise of recovery and reunification is real.

I urge you to support House Bill 3366 – this is an investment in the future of Oregon children and families. I thank you for your consideration and welcome any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Colleen F. Gilmartin

Clackamas County Judge Pro-Tem Clackamas County Juvenile Court

Cc:

Presiding Judge Clackamas County Kathie Steele Clackamas County Circuit Court Judge Ann Lininger Clackamas County Trial Court Administrator Debbie Spradley