

Senator Prozanski, Co Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee.

I ask for you to join OYA in supporting SB 134. This intends to fix a gap in law, in that only Adults in Custody in a Department of Corrections facility, are noted in law for public records release consideration. Adjudicated youth are covered by history and prognosis considerations. DOC youth in OYA, are not noted in either. OYA seeks to have a similar consideration for public records release that AIC have, for DOC youth in OYA. Prior to the work session, there will be an amendment. I want to speak to that amendment and to the intent in this bill.

The amendment coming creates consistency in how youth, who are committed to the Department of Corrections, but temporarily assigned to the Oregon Youth Authority (what are often called DOC youth), are referred to in the bill. In addition, the new language in ORS 420.011(4)(c) is intended to signify that nothing in this bill will affect current law as it relates to records access by attorneys representing a person committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections and transferred to OYA, or by prosecutors or assistant attorneys general representing the state, for use in connection with that person's juvenile dependency, juvenile delinquency, or criminal proceeding. There may be other laws that authorize access to such records, restrict access to such records, or that require a certain process be used to access such records by counsel for the person and counsel for the state. Those laws and processes are unaffected by this exemption. This exemption is not intended to broaden or restrict current access to records by counsel for the person or by counsel for the state, for use in that person's criminal, juvenile dependency, or juvenile delinquency proceeding.

Thank you for your consideration,
Christine Kirk
Oregon Youth Authority