



February 2021

HB 2544 – Funding for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

Chair Williams, Vice Chairs Lief and Ruiz, and Members of the Committee

OWRC supports this request for additional funding for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth services.

As a society we will all be better in the future if our youth who are facing many complexities and are homeless can be in more stable situations.

Programs such as Host Homes and Safe Families being expanded to more areas of the state to serve our youth is needed.

The additional funding will allow DHS youth programing including mental health service access will pay off in the future.

Of the homeless youth in Oregon, 1 in 6 are unaccompanied. Many of those, 1 in 3, choose homelessness because they have been rejected by their parents when they share their sexual orientation as LGBTQ.

We need to take care of our youth now so they can be stable in the future.

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