



ALEX CUYLER

Intergovernmental Relations Manager
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DATE: March 9, 2023
TO: Joint Subcommittee On Public Safety
FROM: Alex Cuyler, Lane County Intergovernmental Relations Manager
RE: SB 5541, relating to the financial administration of the Oregon Youth Authority

Dear Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Evans, and Members of the Subcommittee:

Lane County wishes to express our thoughts on the Oregon Youth Authority budget in SB 5541. The Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) modernization project is essential to creating a statewide case management and records system across various levels of juvenile justice system involvement. Many states do not have this type of centralized and comprehensive database about youth involved in their state and county juvenile justice agencies. The JJIS modernization project will put Oregon at the forefront of juvenile justice data tracking and reporting. Lane County is in support of modernizing JJIS which will become a tool for improving public safety and the lives of youth involved in juvenile justice systems.

The current JJIS appearance and functionality is relatively obsolete to serve the current needs and demands. Professionals are only able to access the current JJIS at their desks. This limits their ability to input data when they are on the field and providing support to youth in the juvenile justice system. It forces professionals to solely rely on their notes to input data, which can lead to inaccurate and misleading data collection. Staff need to have the ability to access on mobile devices anytime and anywhere. Providing funding to modernize JJIS now will empower the ability to keep the system updated and enable data-driven decision to be made with relevant and accurate data.

JJIS enables the capacity to inform the planning, development, and evaluation of programs designed to reduce youth crime. In order for staff to serve youth to their fullest potential, they need access to 100% of information to better provide services for each, individual youth. Modernizing JJIS ensures that staff at both the county and state levels are on the same page and are using accurate and quality information to make decisions that impact community safety.

Lane County is in full support of the sufficient funds allocated to the Oregon Youth Authority in the Governor's Recommended Budget, which can be used to continue the critical work and impact made by the JJIS Modernization Project. JJIS promotes a more productive and effective workforce that can increase the quality of work done to engage youth and families.

ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BY ALEX CUYLER, LANE COUNTY
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS MANAGER