



**Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association**  
*Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments*  
[www.ojdda.org](http://www.ojdda.org)

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- Christina McMahan, President-Elect
- Jim Goodwin, Past President
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### OJDDA Support for SB 745 A

The Oregon Juvenile Department Director's Association (OJDDA) Supports Senate Bill 745 A.

It is probably no surprise that human trafficking continues to be a tragic problem in the lives of high-risk youth and their families. This makes the juvenile justice system a natural environment where these youth can be concentrated. Compared to the adolescent general population, justice involved youth have much higher rates of mental health issues, drug and alcohol addiction and trauma history. For these reasons so many of our youth are also at a high risk of becoming victims of human trafficking.

As a system, we must do a better job identifying these victims AND getting them the services they need in order to escape their horror and ultimately begin healing.

SB 745 A will provide uniform trafficking identification training for all county and state workers that work directly with these youth. It also ensures that a standardized screening tool is applied to all justice involved youth upon intake into our system. Once identified, these youth will be referred to approved resources specific to the needs of this population.

Senate Bill 745 A represents true collaboration between multiple state agencies, OJDDA and treatment providers. Input was received from all concerned parties and the final bill is one that will begin a statewide process that will address the incredibly tragic reality of human trafficking in the juvenile justice population.

I have full faith that if SB 745 A is adopted, the system will react accordingly, and these positive system-initiated changes will have an immediate impact on this population which remains in dire need of coordinated intervention.

Jim Goodwin, Juvenile Department Director for Josephine County

Board member of Attorney Generals' Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee.

