



TO: House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services  
February 8, 2024

Esteemed Committee Members:

At the NAACP, we strive to identify and combat the structural, albeit often unintended, racism inherent in our public institutions. The statistics regarding children of color in foster care have long shown a significant imbalance in outcomes for families of color despite data that unambiguously shows African American and other minority groups are no more likely to abuse their children than other groups. The data shows there are more reports of abuse, more investigations of families and more removals for African-American families than there are for white families.

In order to make our state a place where all families have equal opportunity to thrive, the laws, rules, and procedures that organize our governance must be analyzed and appropriately changed to address inherent negative impacts on under-represented groups.

The analysis proposed is a good first step in correcting the imbalances shown by the data.

We strongly urge your support of the amendments to House Bill 4086 as proposed by Representative Lisa Reynolds.

*RJ Hampton*

RJ Hampton, President  
Salem-Keizer NAACP