



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

## **SB 813**

### **The Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association supports SB 813 for employee safety.**

SB 813 adds employees of the Oregon Youth Authority or a county juvenile department to the list of people who are authorized to petition the circuit court for an order compelling a third party to complete a test for communicable diseases under certain circumstances.

- County juvenile detention workers and probation officers/juvenile counselors are often exposed to bodily fluids of youth they encounter as part of their job responsibilities.
- In a juvenile detention center the staff can be exposed to bodily fluids during the intake process while doing searches and throughout a youth's stay at the juvenile detention center. Exposure can occur from a youth purposefully spitting or using other bodily fluids to expose the staff. Detention staff are in a care giving role and respond to injuries and sickness occurring at the facility exposing them to blood, vomit, urine and feces. Juvenile detention staff also handle laundry and cleaning at the facility and can be exposed through incidental contact.
- County juvenile probation officers/juvenile counselors have similar exposure scenarios where they could be exposed purposefully by the youth through saliva, blood, urine and feces while taking a youth into custody as authorized by current statute or exposed indirectly while doing searches of the youth or the youth's clothing or other property.

#### **OJDDA's Request**

Support SB 813 to add an additional layer of protection for staff in our facilities and in our communities working in conditions which are sometimes less than ideal. It also allows our staff an avenue to seek important health information if needed while working to support youth in our communities.

**For Further Information Contact:**  
Lara Smith at [lsmith@smithgr.com](mailto:lsmith@smithgr.com)