

Youth committed to OYA are vulnerable to housing instability.

**SB814 reduces that vulnerability, positioning youth for success.**



**supports  
SB 814**

**Ensure youth can access  
state housing services**

### WHAT SB 814 DOES

It responds to Governor Kotek's directive for our agency to create a housing plan for the youth we serve.

It makes clear that OYA youth are eligible for long-term rental assistance through an Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) program, and brings OYA to the program's planning table.

It also extends eligibility to youth *at risk* of becoming homeless, enabling work further upstream.

### BACKGROUND

14% of the youth committed to OYA since October 2022 have experienced unstable housing within the three years prior to their commitment. 100% of youth who leave our facilities have no rental history and a record—two major barriers to finding stable housing. Studies show youth are most vulnerable to poor choices at points of transition, and that unstable housing further increases the risk that they commit a new crime.

### WHY WE SUPPORT IT

Leaving OYA custody is a major transition for youth. Housing instability upon exit exacerbates an already critical point in a youth's path toward a productive and crime-free future. This bill reduces some of the risk naturally associated with this transition. This will set youth up for better outcomes, and make Oregon communities safer.

Fiscal Impact: None

Related Statutes: ORS 458.390

#### CONTACT

Debbi Martin  
Deborah.Martin@oya.oregon.gov  
503-551-0487

#### OUR MISSION

OYA protects the public and reduces crime by holding youth accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

#### OUR VISION

Youth who leave OYA go on to lead productive, crime-free lives.