Deeper justice involvement is bad for youth & expensive for Oregon. SB 816 supports effective, efficient diversion work by counties.



WHAT SB 816 DOES

It expands the use of Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) diversion funding to be used for pre-adjudication and diversion work with youth who come into contact with the county juvenile department. supports SB 816

Currently, JCP funds can only be spent on youth who are adjudicated by the court. The expanded definition allows for intervention at earlier points to divert more youth from court and state system involvement.

BACKGROUND

The overwhelming majority of youth in Oregon's juvenile justice system are supervised at the county level. Local juvenile departments, in collaboration with system partners, determine the appropriate level of intervention for a youth.

The legislature passes JCP diversion funding through OYA to all 36 counties to support this work, but this funding can only be used for youth who have been adjudicated.

WHY WE SUPPORT IT

County juvenile departments have effective services they can use before adjudication – services that can prevent further criminal behavior and halt a path that leads deeper into the justice system. Moving deeper into the system can lead to worse outcomes for a youth and is more expensive for taxpayers.

Fiscal Impact: None

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OUR MISSION

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

Related Statutes: ORS 420.017(1)

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