

Submitter: Keosha Dockery
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2555

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice-Chair Chotzen, Vice-Chair Wallan, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 2555 and the Family Sentencing Alternative Program (FSAP), a program that has not only strengthened Oregon's communities but has provided real pathways for accountability, rehabilitation, and family preservation. Without legislative action, FSAP will end, and countless families will face devastating consequences--children torn from their caregivers, increased foster care placements, and a cycle of incarceration that does nothing to repair harm or restore lives.

As a single parent who has personally experienced injustices within the legal system, I know firsthand how crucial it is to have alternatives that support families rather than dismantle them. The system often punishes parents in ways that do nothing to serve justice, heal harm, or provide meaningful opportunities for rehabilitation. It is a cruel reality that incarceration disproportionately impacts low-income parents, Black and Brown families, and those without traditional support systems. When caregivers are removed from their children's lives, the trauma reverberates for generations, creating instability, poverty, and further entanglement with the system--a reality I have fought against myself.

FSAP works. It provides supervised accountability while allowing parents to remain present in their children's lives, reducing recidivism and breaking the cycle of incarceration. Instead of creating more trauma, it offers real solutions--access to housing, mental health support, addiction treatment, and culturally specific services that meet the unique needs of Oregon's diverse families. By expanding FSAP eligibility and ensuring more families have access to these life-changing resources, we are not only preventing crime but also investing in stronger, healthier communities.

I urge you to pass HB 2555 and protect this vital program. To allow FSAP to end would be to turn our backs on families who are trying to do better, to be present for their children, and to contribute positively to society. The justice system should not be about tearing families apart--it should be about creating opportunities for accountability, healing, and rehabilitation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will stand on the side of justice, community, and family by supporting HB 2555.

Keosha Dockery