



Disability  
Rights  
Oregon

TO: Senate Human Services Committee  
FROM: Emily Cooper  
DATE: February 21, 2025  
RE: SB 741 DRO Support

Dear Chair Gelser-Blouin, Vice Chair Linthicum, and members of the Senate Committee

Disability Rights Oregon (DRO) submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 741 providing an appropriate compensation to foster parents.

Disability Rights Oregon filed a class action lawsuit in 2019 due to our concerns regarding the rights of foster youth including critical concerns regarding the lack of home-like placements.

SB 741 ensures that foster parents are paid for the amount of time and attention it takes to actually meet the needs of the child including those with disabilities. For example, the mileage reimbursements make sure that foster parents taking care of children who need additional medical or mental health services will not face a financial burden in providing whatever transportation is needed for the child.

Ultimately, if SB 741 passes, Oregon will increase the array of foster parents and home like placements by having a compensation rate that encourages rather than discourages responsible adults from becoming foster parents.

Disability Rights Oregon (DRO). For more than 40 years, we have served as Oregon's federally authorized and funded Protection & Advocacy System. DRO is committed to ensuring the civil rights of all people are protected and enforced. In recent years, DRO has settled [a class action lawsuit](#) regarding the Department of Human Services failure to provide appropriate services to foster youth with disabilities.

If you have any questions regarding DRO's position on this legislation, please call Ben Gurewitz at 971-806-7908 or email him at [bgurewitz@droregon.org](mailto:bgurewitz@droregon.org).