

Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments www.ojdda.org

## The Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association Neutral Position with Amendments to SB 915

SB 915 directs the Office of Training Investigations and Safety (OTIS) to investigate all allegations occurring in correctional settings, including juvenile detention centers or youth correctional facilities. This is a significant policy shift. Correctional settings are substantially different than other settings currently being investigated by the Oregon Department of Human Services(ODHS), Child Welfare and OTIS.

OJJDA appreciates the forthcoming amendment to this bill. With the amendment removing lines 12-14 on Page 1, OJDDA takes a neutral position regarding SB 915.

OJDDA recommends that further conversations surrounding investigations in correctional settings begin by reviewing the upcoming report from the DHS Investigation Jurisdisdiction work group formed by HB 4086 in 2023. OJDDA also recommends utilizing the process of the Juvenile Justice Policy Commission which was also formed by the 2023 Legislature to review and oversee juvenile justice policy decisions within the State of Oregon.

OJDDA believes that future conversations about investigations occurring within correctional settings should be a collaborative process that will ensure that Oregon has a child abuse reporting and response system that is effective, comprehensive and easy to understand in order to keep our children safe.