



March 26, 2025

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners  
Policy Position  
Related to the financial administration of the Department of Education.**

**Clackamas County supports House Bill 5515:** We support legislation that funds vital services to prevent at-risk youth from entering or becoming further involved in the juvenile justice system and provides the support needed for children facing barriers to succeed. All children, whether they face significant challenges or not, should be provided with the resources they need to succeed and realize their full potential.

The Clackamas County Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) program aims to prevent youth at imminent risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system from engaging in delinquency, prevent delinquent youth from continuing to offend, and improve resiliency factors for youth in the JCP program.

In the most recent statewide evaluation of Justice Crime Prevention services, a survey of 1,647 justice involved youths from 31 counties found that:

- 91% had no criminal referrals for 12 months after starting in a local JCP program
- 69% of youth who had at least one criminal referral had no criminal referral 12 months after the start of service
- 41% decreased in risk factors for all JCP youth
- 68% decreased in risk factors for youth assessed as high risk
- 62% decreased in school dropout
- 39% increased in significant school attendance
- 57% reduction in aggressive behavior at school in the past 30 days
- 48% decreased in chronic school truancy

The agency recommended budget for the 2025-2027 biennium is \$6.91 million. Funding this in full will enable JCPs in the state to reach more youth who need services, preventing youth from entering the justice system, improving education outcomes and giving kids the chance at success that they deserve.

**We urge a “yes” vote on HB 5515.**

Please contact Trent Wilson ([twilson2@clackamas.us](mailto:twilson2@clackamas.us)) for more information.