



Oregon Alliance

5/5/2025

Dear Co-Chairs Campos and Valderrama and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services,

The Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs advocates for the safety, health, and well-being of children, youth, families, and communities across Oregon. Our member organizations provide essential services in homes, schools, residential programs, and communities statewide—working alongside government agencies and community leaders to deliver effective programs and policies that support Oregon's most vulnerable populations.

On behalf of our members, we urge your support for **House Bill 3224**.

Oregon currently requires a variety of background checks for individuals working with children, youth, and families. While these checks are an essential safeguard, the system has become fragmented resulting in overlapping, redundant, and inconsistent processes that create unnecessary administrative burdens for providers. These inefficiencies have a direct impact on Oregon's workforce and the vulnerable populations who rely on their care.

The delays caused by duplicative and slow background check processes discourage qualified applicants from pursuing or staying in caregiving roles, particularly when the hiring process can take 30-60 days or longer. In many cases, caregivers are left waiting for re-checks before they can continue working, leaving gaps in essential services and disrupting care for those who need it most.

We support **House Bill 3224**, which would require ODHS to conduct a comprehensive review of Oregon's background check requirements and provide recommendations for streamlining and modernizing the system.

We believe HB 3224 represents a thoughtful and necessary step toward improving Oregon's background check process, ensuring that it protects both the workforce and the communities we serve.

We urge the committee to support **House Bill 3224**, and we appreciate Representative Nathanson's leadership in bringing this important issue forward.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your commitment to strengthening Oregon's systems of care.

Sincerely,

Vera Stoulil
CEO, Oregon Alliance

Empowering Organizations,
Transforming Lives