

Submitter:

Jennifer Cranmer

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3835

Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Drazen and Pham, thank you for allowing testimony on HB 3835, I am Jennifer Cranmer an ODHS employee of 13 years. I am also a member of SEIU 503 and the Vice President for Local 200, representing all ODHS employees.

There is a lot of testimony on record about this bill, including my own, regarding the challenges young people in Oregon experience, at times jeopardizing the safety of themselves and others, there are times when intervention is needed. I urge you to hear the common theme from the testimony being provided, from both the opposition and those in support.

Young people need access to services that we don't currently have
and
policy should not jeopardize safety

This bill would do just that, clarify what is currently unclear and expand services. You are hearing from community partners saying with these changes, they can come to the table and help the youth in Oregon, that have been evaluated by medical professionals and determined to need such care. Having less placement options for these youth and placing them in other settings that do not meet their need, is not doing our best for our youth, rather puts them and others more at risk. Our child caring system is far from perfect, the fault isn't with one specific entity, we are all letting our youth down. We need to remove barriers and invest in services that meet the needs of the youth in Oregon.
I urge you, hear the common goals and pass HB 3835 A -5 amendment.