

To: The Honorable Members of the Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety
Response

From: Jeremiah Fallin Technology Director, Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley

Date: May 13, 2025

Subject: Strong Support for HB 3631 - Investing in Thriving Youth

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jeremiah Fallin, Technology Director at the Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley. We strongly support HB 3631 and its vital investment in youth substance use prevention, mental health, and positive out-of-school programs – core elements of our mission.

To underscore the importance of this bill, we have collected direct responses from the middle school youth we serve. Their insights on how programs like ours impact their lives and help them make positive choices are attached/included with this testimony. Their voices highlight the real-world need for the support HB 3631 would provide.

We urge your support for this critical legislation.

In addition to the written answers our youth provided to some prompted questions, some things we heard are that:

1. If their school day was bad the Club brightens their mood and makes them feel better.
2. Helps develop social skills and problem solving skills around social issues and issues with other people.
3. They can connect with kids from schools that they don't go to that they will go to school with later (we have 2 middle schools that funnel into 1 high school).

4. If they were not at the Club they would most likely be at home bored and lonely.
5. At the Club they get to play Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee, League of Legends, and other video games with their friends that they don't have at home.
6. The Club has helped them make good choices.
7. It has helped with their anger issues.

HB 3631 Written Testimony

Your Voice Matters! Please answer the question below. Your honest thoughts help show why our Boys & Girls Club is important and deserves support.


1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

Helps me socialize with people and I ^{got} to know people who are now my closest friends

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

Being more social, meeting new people, helps with grades

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

 I participate in the activities and try new things, like sports are something I wouldn't do if I didn't attend the club

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1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

It is help full to me because the staff will deal with anything that happens and they will make sure that every one is safe.

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

It positively impacted me by helping me get to know anybody and to make me feel safe at the boys and girls club.

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

To me it's important because everybody can get to know everyone and to not have people make bad choices and teaches people to get along and not doing drugs and stuff like that.

HB 3631 Written Testimony

Your Voice Matters! Please answer the question below. Your honest thoughts help show why our Boys & Girls Club is important and deserves support.

1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

It's help-full to me because Ryan and Staff deal with thing. and make good choices.

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

I've met lots of friend like my best friend esmeralda!

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

It's important because kids get to do sports through here. and it's a safe place for kids to go after school.

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1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

Something that makes me do healthy choices is hanging out with my Best BEst freinds.

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

I has impacted me because I met Amarji!

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

because I got to meet lots of my freind from doing boys & girls club sports and it is safe place!

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1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

Hanging out with friends makes me feel better and motivated to do something with my life

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

I changed how I talk and hang out with people

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

Its a good place to have people (kids) find what they enjoy and do it

Tommy

HB 3631 Written Testimony

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2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

We as in most of us enjoy it here. It allows us to connect outside of school. We do many good things. and many fun things.

Your Voice Matters! Please answer the question below. Your honest thoughts help show why our Boys & Girls Club is important and deserves support.

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Not lonely, socialize

Freemant / Club helped her feel better

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

Being more social, learning new things
Cooking / ESports

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

- good influence on kids

- New experiences

- Not home alone

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HB 3631 Written Testimony

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1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

The staff because they give us lessons like this.

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

my friends make me have good decision.

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

Because so we can have a lot more stuff to do.

girls.

Your Voice Matters! Please answer the question below. Your honest thoughts help show why our Boys & Girls Club is important and deserves support.

1. What's something about the Club that helps you make healthy choices (like avoiding drugs/alcohol) or feel better mentally (handling problems with friends)? Why was it helpful?

That everyone is "Super" nice and all the staffs are Super helpful when needed.

😊

2. Share a short story: How has the Boys & Girls Club positively impacted YOU—maybe by helping you make a good decision or avoid a risky situation?

When I did NOT feel like playing a game with people Then I got told that I should try

3. What's ONE key reason lawmakers should fund Boys & Girls Clubs, especially to help kids make good choices and stay healthy? Why is this so important?

Because The more fun and more healthier kids it makes kids motivated to come to Boys and girls club. So it is a super good choice to fund The Boys and girls Club.