

OPPOSITION to HB 4059 – WHY Oregon’s Children Deserve Better and HOW we can accomplish it.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I have just reviewed the voluminous postings by Daniel attempting to rationalize the continued ABUSE, NEGLECT and EXPLOITATION of Oregon’s Children as a cost cutting technique for the state, even though the documents are already more than three years out of date.

Again, I am writing to express my **Absolute Opposition** to this Bill, the deceptive Trojan Horse approach to its introduction, and the despicable reliance on PAID LOBBYING and CONSULTANT FIRMS, who claim to be “Bipartisan” but whose CEOs and Boards, many apparently from the Bush(s) and Trump administrations, and mostly from Big Money, Big Health Insurance, and Big IT Multi-Billion \$\$\$ Corporations, appear to be Washington DC “hired guns” brought in to sell HB 4059’s ideas along with the Software and Technology Systems they plan to sell as the means to carry them out.

Hardly any one of these Consultant-Lobbyists appears to care about or even mention the real, live CHILDREN involved, whom they seem to think can be manipulated and shuffled back and forth, passing the buck for their protection and care from Agency (CPS) to Agency (Institutional Licensing) to Agency (Law Enforcement at all levels) like some colossal Game of Risk!

Which makes sense when even relatively simple, easy Internet Research reveals serious flaws with calling them experts, at least in the field of child abuse, rather they appear to be almost universally from the fields of Banking, Big Business, Housing Development, etc. instead. Anyone can check this for themselves by just going to their Websites/Biographical histories.

Or with those that do have any child welfare experience, following up the Red Flags to archived news articles, such as **The Denver Post** :

<http://dpo.st/1RdQ8w6> Letter of NO CONFIDENCE by 87 Legislators about their Colorado Director of Human Services, or the quotes by “Zach the Child Welfare Wonk” who insists that:

"You also learn about change and you learn that **Change is often far more covert than it is overt** " subject of interview with retiring Congressman.

Quotation from JANUARY 21, 2026----WonkCast People Power Policy**This episode (podcast) is brought to you by Binti, a modern CWIS platform helping agencies transform how they serve children and families.**

Translation: Funded/Sponsored/PAID FOR by People whose For-Profit Business(es) market their products to state Child Welfare Systems.

So perhaps it isn't a Coincidence that HB 4059 just happened to appear only days to weeks after the Bipartisan Policy Center's Working Group on Child Welfare Financing and Accountability released its "**Blueprint**" on December 11, 2025 after a Task Force "How To" Virtual Training, which includes (**in true Trojan Horse/Wolf in Sheep's Clothing style**) as its last point:

Reform 6: Establish a new role for **federal** leadership in improving the quality of child welfare.....to enable much greater capacity to measure outcomes and **hold states accountable.**

6a: The **federal** government should create a National Child Welfare Workforce Academy to **set standards**, provide specialized training, and professionalize and create a career ladder for those who perform the work of child welfare.

6c: The **federal** government should create a National Child Welfare Data, Measurement, and **Technology Center** to help states and tribes

(**Hi! We're the Government and We are Here to Help you!!!**) to

- 1) maintain integrated child welfare data systems.....;
- 2) link child welfare data with other systems
- 3) implementaccountability tools and processes;
- 4) **employ AI and other technologies to reduce workers'**
....."

Enough for the BAD NEWS.....

NOW for the GOOD NEWS!

OREGON CAN FIX THIS!

Oregon is doing many things RIGHT to protect Children.

Oregon has been a Leader in the Community-Based Living and Independent Living Movements, esp. since the Olmstead Supreme Court decision required de-institutionalization of children and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities

Oregon oversees its Child Protective Services System, especially children and young adults in Foster Care, through Citizen's Review Boards which exist in every county and conduct frequent reviews of cases to insure that child welfare services are being delivered appropriately.

Sibling and Familial Contact Plans are used in Oregon to make sure that children in care have the right to the information about their family members and can stay in contact with them as they choose.

The Oregon Child Welfare System focuses on reunification with parents or keeping the children in care within their extended family or in kinship placements with friends of family. Guardianships are also alternatives to remaining in care.

Oregon respects the rights of children above the age of 14 regarding their medical care decisions.

Oregon has multiple Bills of Rights to protect the best interests of children in foster care and their parents.

Oregon offers foster children an option to remain in care for more years after they turn 18 so they can have financial support as they transition into adulthood. ODHS is also supposed to help children in care obtain their driver's license when they turn 16 and assist in collecting information to build their financial folders (Credit, bank accounts, possible money management classes) for future independence.

YES, There is MUCH MORE that Oregon can do to Help and Heal Children TRAUMATIZED by Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation.

Oregon has become a Leader in the Trauma Informed Movement:

In 2012, the Children's System Advisory Committee (CSAC, advisory to Addiction and Mental Health, AMH) identified the impact of trauma on children and youth with mental health challenges as a priority in its annual work plan. The resulting workgroup, composed of state leaders, providers, family members of children with emotional challenges and youth with lived experience in the mental health system, prepared and circulated a white paper on trauma informed care followed by a proposed state policy. The white paper and its recommendations were instrumental in the development of the **state's trauma informed care policy**.

<https://traumainformedoregon.org/about>

In June of 2014, the Oregon Health Authority, Health Systems Division (formerly Addictions and Mental Health Division), contracted with Portland State University, in partnership with Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) and the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS), to initiate a statewide collaboration to promote and sustain trauma informed care across child- and family-serving systems.

Trauma Informed Oregon (TIO) was created in recognition of the impact that adverse experiences in childhood have on long-term health outcomes and represents a **commitment at the state level** to promote prevention and to bring policies and practices into better alignment with the principles of trauma informed care. <https://traumainformedoregon.org/about>

Here is CONTACT INFORMATION for Help, Healing and Humanity:

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