



Oregon CASA Network
400 Glenn Creek Rd NW #5030
Salem, OR 97304

www.oregonCASAnetwork.org

Subject: Oregon CASA Network Support for SB 1533 with the -1 amendments, Oregon Foster Children's Bill of Rights and Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights

Date: February 12, 2026

To: Chair Gelser Blouin and Members of the Committee

From: Stephanie Brown, Oregon CASA Network

Chair Gelser Blouin and Members of the Committee,

Oregon CASA Network (OCN) is pleased to offer our testimony in support of Senate Bill 1533 with the -1 amendments, which aims to expand and reinforce the rights of children in foster care and their siblings. As a statewide nonprofit organization, OCN works tirelessly to provide training, technical support, and legal assistance to 19 local CASA programs spanning all 36 counties in Oregon. Through CASA's efforts, thousands of dedicated volunteers advocate for the wellbeing of children and youth in foster care, both in the courtroom and their daily lives.

We stand behind SB 1533 due to its critical enhancements to the Oregon Foster Children's Bill of Rights and the Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights. These changes have the potential to improve the quality of life for one of the most vulnerable demographics – children and youth who have faced abuse and neglect.

SB 1533 ensures that children in foster care have consistent and unimpeded access to adults who serve as advocates for their needs, and that their voice in court is clear. Beyond the enhancement to their rights, this means that children and youth can have a heightened sense of emotional safety.

SB 1533 is a crucial step in safeguarding the dignity of children and youth in foster care by granting them access to belongings of personal significance, providing comfort and connection during transitions. Additionally, the bill preserves their inherent dignity by codifying the appropriate transport of personal belongings.

SB 1533 recognizes the significance of meaningful connections by ensuring foster youth maintain vital relationships with siblings – relationships that require nurturing and support. By prioritizing regular sibling interaction, this bill upholds the emotional needs of children in foster care and offers them much-needed stability. Additionally, SB 1533 grants access to crucial information about siblings, which demonstrates respect and dignity for the involved youth.



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Oregon CASA Network supports SB 1533 as a crucial legislative measure to safeguard the rights, safety, dignity, and connections of children and youth in foster care. We encourage the Senate Human Services Committee to consider the profound impact this bill will have on the lives of those who need it most.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1533 with the -1 amendments.