

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 749

Ordered by the Senate April 24
Including Senate Amendments dated April 24

Sponsored by Senator GELSER, Representative STARK

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Requires Department of Human Services to, upon request, reassign caseworker to child, ward, youth or youth offender who is 12 years of age or older and in legal custody of department.]

Requires *[department]* **Department of Human Services** to permit access by child, ward, youth or youth offender **who is 15 years of age or older and who is in legal custody of department** to confidential information of child, ward, youth or youth offender *[who is 14 years of age or older]* and to permit child, ward, youth or youth offender *[who is 14 years of age or older]* to sign own release of information.

[Specifies when child, ward, youth or youth offender must be provided with information regarding rights.]

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to rights of persons in the legal custody of the Department of Human Services.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 418.

SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:

(a) **"Child"** means an unmarried person under 21 years of age;

(b) **"Ward"** has the meaning given that term in ORS 419A.004;

(c) **"Youth"** has the meaning given that term in ORS 419A.004; and

(d) **"Youth offender"** has the meaning given that term in ORS 419A.004.

(2) A child, ward, youth or youth offender in the legal custody of the Department of Human Services who is 15 years of age or older shall:

(a) **Upon request, have access to confidential information maintained by the department regarding the child, ward, youth or youth offender; and**

(b) **Be entitled to sign a release of information authorizing disclosure of confidential information maintained by the department regarding the child, ward, youth or youth offender for the purpose of obtaining assistance from an advocate, attorney, legislator or any other person.**

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2017 Act applies to children, wards, youths or youth offenders in the legal custody of the Department of Human Services on or after the effective date of this 2017 Act.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.