

Members of the House Human Services Committee,

Children's Institute is excited to support proposed amendments to HB 3180, which would move Oregon forward in gathering better data about child abuse and neglect prevalence among young children. Once developed and implemented, this data would provide better information to lawmakers on how to prioritize resources most effectively to prevent child abuse and neglect. With more than 50% of children in foster care being under 5 years old, establishing new ways to gather information on whether we are decreasing abuse and neglect rates among young children is an urgent matter. Collecting this data would also allow us to have a better understanding of whether investments are having an impact on child abuse and neglect rates. Better data can promote stronger policy and greater investments in proven strategies to stop abuse before it starts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Dana Hepper

Dana Hepper

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