



Disability  
Rights  
Oregon

TO: Senate Human Services Committee  
FROM: Emily Cooper  
DATE: February 18, 2025  
RE: SB 911 DRO Support

Dear Chair Gelser-Blouin, Vice Chair Linthicum, and members of the Senate Committee

Disability Rights Oregon (DRO) submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 911 providing critical financial resources to independent living providers serving youth aging out of foster care.

Disability Rights Oregon filed a class action lawsuit in 2019 due to our concerns regarding the rights of foster youth including those who transition out of care with little to no support.

Leaving Oregon's foster care system, youth often have a hard time finding their path forward into adulthood. SB 911 ensures adequate and consistent independent living resources.

Disability Rights Oregon (DRO). For more than 40 years, we have served as Oregon's federally authorized and funded Protection & Advocacy System. DRO is committed to ensuring the civil rights of all people are protected and enforced. In recent years, DRO has settled a class action lawsuit regarding the Department of Human Services failure to provide appropriate services to foster youth with disabilities.

If you have any questions regarding DRO's position on this legislation, please call Ben Gurewitz at 971-806-7908 or email him at [bgureiwtz@droregon.org](mailto:bgureiwtz@droregon.org).