July 25, 2016
To: DHS All Staff and Stakeholders
From: DHS Director, Clyde Saiki

On July 20, 2016 DHS held a second stakeholder meeting in Salem covering DHS rules stemming from Senate Bill 1515. Thank you to everyone who participated. I could not be there that day, but have heard from others that your feedback was very helpful. Your feedback is appreciated and will be considered as we move forward with implementation. The purpose of the law is to keep children safe and well taken care of while residing or receiving services from a child caring agency. For those who were not able to attend, minutes from the meeting will be posted soon.

I know you are committed to transparency and collaboration as we move toward final rules for SB 1515, so I want to give you an update on where we are. Right now rules governing the law are temporary and posted on the SB 1515 web page. The goal is to have permanent rules filed by mid-November. In addition to stakeholder meetings and asking for public comment, the next step in the permanent rule making process is to convene a Rule Advisory Committee (RAC). The purpose of the RAC is to bring a small, representative group of stakeholders together to refine the rules that govern SB 1515.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the RAC please email Kris Skaro kris.a.skaro@state.or.us. RAC participants will receive updated rules to review in mid-August and will meet to share feedback on Monday, August 29 from 9am to 4pm in the Human Services Building (500 Summer Street NE) Room 137 A and B in Salem, Oregon.

A public comment period is also open right now. Written comments can be sent to Kris Skaro kris.a.skaro@state.or.us until October 21, 2016. I encourage you to participate and have your voice heard. It takes a community to keep Oregon’s children safe, please join us.

Thanks again for your participation,

Clyde