

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	10 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Barton, Cameron, Garrett, Krieger, Olson, Shields, Smith J., Stiegler, Whisnant, Barker
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Shannon Sivell, Counsel
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	3/2, 3/17, 3/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes the Department of Corrections to reduce a term of incarceration up to 60 days for inmates who successfully complete an educational program. Clarifies that an inmate may receive the reduction for participating in the adult basic skills program or by obtaining a General Education Development (GED) certificate or other certificate or degree from a post-secondary school.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Opportunities to reduce recidivism
- Provisions of the measure

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Clarifies that an inmate may receive the reduction for participating in the adult basic skills program or by obtaining a General Education Development (GED) certificate or other certificate or degree from a post-secondary school.

**BACKGROUND:** Under current law, offenders receive credit, up to 20 percent of their total sentence, for participating in adult skills programs as defined by ORS 421.084. HB 2623A provides another way for an inmate to receive a portion of the 20 percent reduction to their sentence. HB 2623A also offers an incentive to inmates to continue with their education and obtain a degree.

The Department of Corrections (DOC) estimates that 1,018 inmates per biennium meet the requirements for early release. Of that number, approximately 428 do not reach the maximum earned time allowed and would be eligible for additional earned time under the provisions of this measure. DOC estimates that this measure would save between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 for 2009-2011.

3/26/2009 8:30:00 AM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*