

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	4 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Boquist, Dingfelder, Prozanski
Nays:	Whitsett
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	2/26, 4/1, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates a pilot program to fund resource centers in Multnomah, Lane, Marion and Jackson counties with one additional resource center in Eastern Oregon. Requires the Department of Corrections to make grants to fund the resource centers. Requires the centers to provide, among other things, alcohol and drug assessment and treatment, assessment and planning, housing, employment, and financial and computer literacy training to persons released from the Department of Corrections.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Evidence-based
- Costs
- Need to reduce recidivism
- Impact on other programs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the original measure.

BACKGROUND: Oregon has a recidivism rate of about 30 percent for inmates released on parole or post-prison supervision, meaning that the offender commits a felony offense within two years of release. This rate compares very favorably with other states. Nonetheless, reducing Oregon's recidivism rate further reduces crime in Oregon and reduces the costs of our criminal justice system.

When released, most inmates have very few resources. Most do not have a driver license or another form of identification needed to cash a check, find a job or rent an apartment. Few have jobs or the skills to find one. Many are on medication for mental illness while in prison but do not know how to obtain their medication when released. Release centers assist released inmates to get a driver license or other form of identification, find a job or get their medication.