



# Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

May 13, 2013

The Honorable Jackie Winters, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Jennifer Williamson, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Public Safety

## **RE: House Bill 2549A**

Co-Chairs Winters and Williamson, members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety, I am Cindy Booth, Transition and Reentry Administrator for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I write to provide information on House Bill 2549A as it relates to the DOC.

### **What this Bill Does**

HB 2549A develops a risk-based level system for registration and community notification for sexual offenders as defined by ORS 181.595-.597.

Specific to the DOC, HB 2549A requires the department adopt by rule a sex offender risk assessment tool for use in classifying sex offenders based on the statistical likelihood that an individual sex offender will commit another sex crime, and result in placing the sex offender in one of three levels for the purposes of notification.

Further, HB 2549A requires the department to complete said risk assessment on all persons convicted of a sex crime before the person is released from custody where currently the department is responsible for completing a sex offender-specific risk assessment on persons with a conviction for Rape, Sodomy, Unlawful Sexual Penetration, and/or Sex Abuse. For this reason, the department is reporting a fiscal impact.

### **Issue Addressed by this Bill**

Under current law, ORS 181.585(2), an agency is required to use a risk assessment scale approved by the Department of Corrections or a community corrections agency when determining whether a person is a predatory sex offender. The Static 99-R is the actuarial instrument used by DOC, community corrections agencies, and the Parole Board.

With this legislation, the Static 99-R will remain the tool used to assess all sex offenders prior to release from DOC custody and to place them in one of three levels for the purposes of community notification under the law.

### *Submitted by:*

The Department of Corrections (DOC)  
Cindy Booth, Transition and Reentry Administrator  
Cindy.D.Booth@doc.state.or.us  
(503) 947-1040