



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Jeff Barker, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

RE: House Bill 2236

Chair Barker and members of the House Judiciary Committee, I am Chane Griggs, Assistant Director of Offender Management & Rehabilitation at the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I appreciate the opportunity to provide information on House Bill 2236 and to answer any questions you may have.

What the Bill Does

This bill would continue DOC's authority to house offenders in public correctional facilities outside the state of Oregon; the current statute sunsets on January 2, 2014.

Issue Addressed by this Bill

HB 2236 gives the Department the flexibility to house offenders if and when the Department needs alternatives to housing inmates in existing DOC institutions. For example, a safety valve is needed in case a natural disaster or some other unforeseen event that would dramatically decrease the number of beds available to house adults in DOC facilities. House Bill 2236 would allow DOC to continue to house offenders in out of state *public* facilities in the case of such an emergency.

DOC has not housed offenders in the manner allowed in this bill in more than a decade. None of our current population planning requires the use of out of state beds and the department has no intent to move in that direction. However, DOC needs to have the option available. I appreciate your consideration of this bill and welcome your questions.

Submitted by:

The Department of Corrections (DOC)

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