Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Authorizes temporary release of inmates conveyed to another jurisdiction on same terms as inmates confined in Department of Corrections institution.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections, Cities, Counties

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

The measure authorizes temporary release of inmates conveyed to another jurisdiction on the same terms as inmates confined in a Department of Corrections (DOC) institution. The measure provides DOC with the statutory authority to contract with local community corrections jurisdictions to provide work release programs and reentry services to inmates nearing the end of their sentences.

SB 5505 (2011) provided \$1.0 million General Fund to DOC for the purpose of reentry grants. DOC was directed to design and implement a reentry services pilot project with a county or counties to provide work release and transitional planning for inmates scheduled to release within 90 to 180 days. DOC is anticipating working with Marion County, Lane County, and Jackson County; however no contracts have been agreed upon or implemented at this time.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. The measure's language is permissive, providing DOC with the statutory authority to enter into contracts, but does not require DOC or a local community corrections jurisdiction to enter into such a contract. The number of counties that will ultimately participate in the program and the number of inmates that may be transferred from DOC facilities to the counties is unknown.

The cost savings to DOC would vary based on the number of inmates that are transferred from DOC facilities to county supervision. Current marginal cost per inmate per day is approximately \$21.93 for DOC facilities. Depending on the number of inmates that are transferred, DOC may require additional staff in the Transition and Reentry Unit.

Thus far in the 2013 legislative session, this is the sixth fiscal impact statement issued by LFO on measures effecting the corrections population. The cumulative effect of similar measures passed during the legislative session will impact the Corrections Population Forecast produced by the Office of Economic Analysis which serves as the basis for funding the Department of Corrections operations and community corrections budgets.