



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

March 17, 2015

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

RE: Senate Bill 639

Chair Prozanski and members of the Committee, I am Leonard Williamson, Inspector General for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I am here to testify on SB 639, and provide information as it relates to the department.

What the Bill Does:

SB 639 restricts the use of motor vehicle registration plate surveillance cameras, and provides some exceptions. SB 639 also exempts captured plate data from disclosure under public records law unless public interest requires disclosure.

Issues Created for DOC by this Bill:

This concept relates to motor vehicle registration plate surveillance cameras and creates provisions. Section 2 (2) (b) specifically refers to “identifying a vehicle that was used to facilitate the commission of a crime or used to avoid apprehension for commission of a crime.” This could have an impact on DOC’s investigatory abilities if a vehicle is potentially linked to activities adversely impacting the safe and secure operation of our prison facilities. Most often, this would involve vehicles that come onto DOC property to drop contraband, or vehicles that drop contraband at inmate work crew sites in the community.

Requested Action:

For the reasons mentioned above, the Department of Corrections recommends that SB 639 be amended to carve out an exception for the department.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Submitted by:

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