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April 6, 2015

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
The Honorable Senator Chip Shields, Co-Chair of Public Safety Sub-Committee
The Honorable Representative Jennifer Williamson, Co-Chair of Public Safety Sub-Committee
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room H-178
Salem, OR 97310-4048

RE: Implementation of HB 3194 in Marion County

To All Concerned Individuals:

This letter responds to a request for information regarding the role of District Attorneys in the implementation of HB 3194 in our respective counties.

Marion County has fully implemented the sentencing reforms contained in HB 3194 (2013). In addition, Marion County has implemented a robust Justice Reinvestment initiative, designed to hold prison population steady, reduce recidivism and victimization, and hold offenders accountable for criminal behavior. Justice Reinvestment has been a remarkable collaborative, engaging all sectors of our community, public and private.

Marion County has made three core investments:

- **Prisoner Re-Entry**
Marion County Re-Entry Initiative has reduced recidivism through significant community engagement, quality programs, trained staff, and systems alignment among sectors including housing, substance abuse treatment, education, parole and probation, and employment agencies and businesses.
- **SOAR (Students Opportunity for Achieving Results)**
SOAR is a comprehensive treatment and employment program designed for high risk offenders returning to our community from prison, centered on the campus of Chemeketa Community College.

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- **SB 416**

Marion County's SB 416 Initiative takes prison-bound medium and high risk career property offenders and places them on community supervision instead of prison. It is a direct collaborative between the District Attorney, the Sheriff (Parole and Probation), the Court, treatment services, and the defense bar of Marion County.

A break out session at the Justice Reinvestment Summit on April 6, 2015, highlighted the SB 416 initiative.

As District Attorney, I have actively engaged in the Metro RIC (Regional Implementation Committee) sponsored by the Criminal Justice Commission. **Every** metro District Attorney has actively participated in the regional meetings, providing an opportunity to share ideas and initiatives, and examine progress and outcomes under the HB 3194 umbrella.

In anticipation of the Justice Reinvestment Grants for the 2015-17 biennium, the Marion County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council has dedicated the lion's share of its agenda to sustain, augment and advance the vision of HB 3194 and Justice Reinvestment. All the stakeholders in Marion County support the objectives of HB 3194.

As District Attorney of Marion County, and a Commissioner on the Criminal Justice Commission, I stand ready to support the "Second Act" of HB 3194.

Sincerely,



Walt Beglau,
Marion County District Attorney

WB:cd