



From the Desks of State Representative Duane Stark (HD-4)
& State Representative Carl Wilson (HD-3)

House Bill 2936 establishes sobering facilities in state law

- **Sobering facilities (also called “sobering centers”, “sobering stations” and “sobering services”)** – provide safe and clean environments where acutely intoxicated individuals are monitored until it is determined they are no longer intoxicated and it is safe for them to leave (less than 24-hours).
- **Sobering facilities provide an important crisis service as part of Oregon’s addictions treatment and mental health system.** Many communities, especially in rural Oregon desperately need more community based alternatives to jail or the ER for individuals who are severely intoxicated on alcohol or drugs.
- **HB 2936 requires sobering facilities to register with OHA and meet several accountability measures.** They are required to contract with an addictions treatment program (approved by OHA) for training, consultation, and planning referrals. The bill extends limited immunity and sober facilities must develop best practices for safety measures.
- **3 current sobering facilities in Oregon** – all smaller part of larger treatment programs:
Buckley House- Eugene operated by Willamette Family Treatment Services (WFTS)
Moore Center -Medford operated by the Addictions Recovery Center (ARC)
Hooper Detox Center- Portland operated by Central City Concern (CCC)
- **Organizations have expressed an interest in developing new sobering facilities in four rural counties.** One of them is the **Grants Pass Sobering Center Project** – non-profit group seeking to build a 14-room facility, serving up to 1,000 people per month which will ease the burden on other Southern Oregon providers.