

Klamath County Community Connections



Crater Lake National Park located in Klamath County

TO: Co-Chair Stark, Co-Chair Winters and Members of the Joint Committee
On Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety

DATE: June 19, 2017

RE: Support for House Bill 3078

Good afternoon, Co –Chair Stark, Co –Chair Winters and members of the Committee.

My name is Kiki Parker-Rose, and I am the director of community corrections in Klamath County.

First, I would like to thank you for providing me the opportunity to testify before you today.

We are in favor of HB 3078 because it encompasses several key elements that strengthen our efforts to deliver effective supervision and services to those in the Criminal Justice System in our community.

The proposed changes to the Family Sentencing Alternative Program (FSAP), proposed expansion of Short Term Transitional Leave (STTL), and changes in sentence lengths for property offenders will enhance our ability to deliver an array of services to those under our supervision.

In Klamath County, we operate a one-stop shop, which allows us to conduct risk and needs assessments, and then target interventions and supervision strategies to address those needs. By using individualized case plans, based on risk and need, and no longer approaching criminal justice offenders with a Lycra mentality (one size fits all), assists us in targeting interventions that are most effective in changing criminal behavior.

Klamath County has a high rate of foster care placements. With the proposed FSAP changes, we are looking forward to the opportunity to become a FSAP county. We have strong relationships in our county and I believe that this Bill will allow us to keep families together, wrap services around them to assist them in being successful and most importantly end multi-generational criminality. Expanding the current criteria will allow us to not only participate, but also look at ways to creatively intervene with families not just based on their criminal record, but also their willingness to remain in the community to be part of their children's lives.



We strongly support the expansion of STTL, from 90 day to 120 days. So far in Klamath County, there have been 5112 prison bed days saved by the 90-day expansion and we expect to increase that number significantly as it is expanded to 120 days. We have had 84 offender released on STTL and only four have been returned to the institution for failing STTL (95% success rate).

From reach in, to arrival at our office, we have the services available to expand this program. Each person is assigned a mentor at intake; we have transitional housing available; and on site drug, alcohol and mental health programming (with no waiting list). We have education, employment, physical health services, on-site parenting, cognitive programming, peer-support, as well as any number of services that address the individual needs of those releasing from prison. Every criminogenic risk factor is addressed at our facility. Our local Community Mental Health Program, Klamath Basin Behavioral Health is on site with us, allowing us the opportunity to maximize our reinvestment resources.

I think it is important to note, that nearly every person sent to prison will return to his or her community. Expanding STTL provides community corrections an opportunity to begin working with them early and moving them in a direction that will make their transition from prison to community much smoother.

Lastly, we support the changes to the proposed reduction in sentence length and number of prior convictions for property offenses.

I believe we should work together to continue to move Oregon forward in our work of making smart, data driven decisions about whom we send to prison, and how long they stay. Saving our very expensive and valuable options for those offenders who pose the highest risk to members of our community.

Using and expanding risk-based sentencing will allow us the opportunity to use our resources in a smart and economical manner.

Oregon is a model in the nation for our work in evidence-based practices. This bill continues to allow us to move forward

Klamath County Community Corrections fully support House Bill 3078. This bill expands opportunities for probation and parolees to be successful in their home communities. In addition, this bill will help invest limited resources where we can have the biggest impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Submitted by:

Kiki Parker-Rose, Director
Klamath County Community Corrections.