



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

501 SE HAWTHORNE BLVD., Suite 350 • Portland, OR 97214

Exemplary service for a safe, livable community

MICHAEL REESE
SHERIFF

503 988-4300 PHONE
503 988-4500 TTY
www.mcso.us

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Oregon State Legislature
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 5005

Dear Chair Winters, Chair Stark, and members of the Subcommittee on Public Safety,

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) supports the Criminal Justice Commission, in its funding request of HB 5005. While government operates under a public safety mandate, it must also balance fiscal responsibility in the form of legitimacy, efficiency, and effectiveness of the state and local criminal justice system. Investments made in the Criminal Justice Commission, have been comprehensively successful for all levels of government despite its complex mission.

Multnomah County's criminal justice system stakeholders, through funding from the State's Justice Reinvestment financial commitment, have actively and steadily reduced the use of state prisons for offenders who may safely be supervised in the community. Between the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program (MCJRP) and increased Short Term Transitional Leave (STTL) eligibility, our collaboration has saved \$9.1M in this biennium and has bolstered the statewide effort to avoid the immediate construction cost of a new prison.

Beyond financial return on investment, the Criminal Justice Commission makes a genuine difference in people's lives. Our unique partnership keeps the community safe while providing offenders a second chance and victims with necessary recovery services. After case plans are customized around safety considerations and the specific needs of an offender, law enforcement officers, including MCSO members, ensure accountability through engaged supervision. Then the work begins to change offender criminal behavior through wrap around services, which range to include mental health services, substance abuse treatment, housing options, employment training, parenting skills and more. By continuing this effort, recidivism will reduce and offenders have a best shot at becoming productive members of our community once again.

Thank you in advance for your support of the Criminal Justice Commission, and continued investment in proven collaborations. The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office looks forward to further success in working with criminal justice system stakeholders.

Respectfully,

Michael Reese
SHERIFF