



From the desk of
Rep. Barker
Jeff Barker

HB 3078-B

SENTENCING AND PRISON POPULATIONS IN OREGON

1. **The women’s prison is crowded, but should not be in a crisis.** Prison populations in Oregon are decreasing in proportion to the population. This is particularly true for the women’s prison population. It is expected to grow by a total of 11 offenders between now and 2027. The excerpt to the right is taken directly from the April 2017 Corrections Population Forecast. Modest, targeted programs should be sufficient to prevent opening OSP-M.

Female
The graph to the right illustrates the total female population forecast.
Female growth over the forecast horizon (April 2017 to March 2027) is 11 inmates—a 0.8 percent increase for a total of 1,307 inmates. This is mildly lower than the previous forecast in the long run due to changes to the intake forecast and a release profile reference period that is shifted forward six months. Overall, the flat forecast is driven by a projected Female-Person crime release rate in the next three years that is much higher than projected intakes. The decline in this population offsets moderate growth predicted for the other two female cohorts.

2. **ID theft and Theft 1 do not target the female prison population.** Reducing penalties for ID theft and Theft 1 will affect far more male offenders than female offenders as shown in the CJC tables below. The penalties for most repeat property offenders were established by the voters in Ballot Measure 57 and protect Oregon’s seniors and low-income citizens, who are most hurt by ID theft. While Theft 1 disproportionately affects businesses.

M57 Changes - No ID theft and Theft 1 in M57	July, 2019	July, 2021	July, 2026
Male	-82	-194	-220
Female	-31	-69	-74

3. **Expanding short term transitional leave affects nearly as many violent offenders as it does drug offenders and property offenders.** Since its expansion in late 2013, over 4,300 offenders have been released early. Those offenders include many violent offenders and sex offenders.

Crime type	Number of Offenders	Percentage of Total
Ballot Measure 11	72	2%
Sex Crime	271	6%
Person Crime	1097	25%
Drug Crime	755	17%
Property Crime	1510	35%
Firearm	336	8%
Other	298	7%