



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Jeff Barker, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

RE: Senate Bill 1543A

Chair Barker and members of the committee, I am Jeremiah Stromberg, Assistant Director of the Community Corrections Division for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I am here to testify in support of section eight of SB 1543A and answer any questions.

What the Bill Does:

Section eight of SB 1543A will protect money in an inmate's transitional fund from execution, garnishment, attachment, or any other process of collection.

Background Information:

This statutory change stems from SB 844, which was passed in 2017. SB 844 was the result of the Inmate Financial Accountability Workgroup. It allows DOC to collect money from inmate trust account deposits for two purposes:

- To pay toward court-ordered financial obligations, such as victim's restitution, compensatory fines and fees, and court fines and fees.
- To establish a re-entry savings account for each adult in custody.

It was the intent of the workgroup to protect the re-entry savings account from collection. However, SB 844 did not include any provision that expressly exempted moneys placed in these accounts from garnishment or other collection processes.

Requested Action:

DOC respectfully requests this committee's support of SB 1543A. Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Submitted by:

Oregon Department of Corrections
Jeremiah Stromberg, Assistant Director, Community Corrections Division
Email: jeremiah.p.stromberg@doc.state.or.us
Phone: 503-945-8876