

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Corrections
Oregon State Penitentiary Minimum for Geriatric Adults in Custody

On April 11th, the Public Safety Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Department of Corrections on the cost of retrofitting the Oregon State Penitentiary Minimum to house geriatric adults in custody.

A budget note in 2018 directed the Department to estimate the feasibility and cost of converting the empty minimum-security prison next to the Oregon State Penitentiary into a dedicated facility for elderly and infirm adults in custody. The Department reports that the facility has either been vacant or has been used for other purposes since 2010, so would require new equipment and renovation to bring it up to current building codes. Its single cells and common areas are not Americans with Disabilities Act compliant and it has no infirmary. Estimated one-time construction and equipment costs total \$32.2 million and renovation could take up to three years. Biennial operating costs are estimated at \$23.3 million per biennium. The report notes that the estimated renovation cost of more than \$1,000 per square foot makes new construction of a purpose-built facility within the perimeter of a different Department of Corrections institution more cost-effective than retrofitting Oregon State Penitentiary Minimum.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.