

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2631 - A

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Directs Department of Corrections to establish pilot program to provide legal services that assist women who are incarcerated at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility to reenter and reintegrate into local communities, to reduce womens' vulnerability to domestic violence and to obtain employment, housing services and other benefits.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections (DOC), Criminal Justice Commission (CJC)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
General Fund	\$800,000	\$0
Total Funds	\$800,000	\$0
Positions	0	0
FTE	0.00	0.00

Analysis:

This bill directs the Department of Corrections, in cooperation with the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, to establish a pilot program to provide legal services to assist women incarcerated at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility as they re-enter and reintegrate into local communities. The legal services would focus on reducing the women’s vulnerability to domestic violence, and on employment, housing and other issues.

The bill allocates \$800,000 General Fund for a two-year grant to employ three attorneys at the Oregon Justice Resource Center, a non-profit that is currently doing this work. The grant would be administered by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC). CJC and the Oregon Justice Resource Center would evaluate the operations and success of the pilot program and report results to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to corrections not later than September 15, 2021.

Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections provides services that support re-entry for inmates, including assisting with basic needs like housing, employment, and medical and mental health care. DOC anticipates that the pilot program created by this bill will work in conjunction with existing the DOC re-entry and release program. Any staff time used to assist with the pilot should be minimal and absorbable by the Department.

The Criminal Justice Commission

The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) will administer the \$800,000 grant and work with the Oregon Justice Resource Center to evaluate the pilot. CJC has expertise in administering grants and evaluating corrections programs. This bill will have a minimal fiscal impact on the Criminal Justice Commission.