

HB 3300 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 04/09/19

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 10-1-0-0

Yeas: 10 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lewis, McLane, Piluso, Power, Sprenger, Williamson

Nays: 1 - Stark

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Addie Smith, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/28, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Department of Corrections (DOC), in collaboration with the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), to create a pilot program establishing the Center for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children (Center) at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility to be administered by the YWCA of Greater Portland. Provides goals for the Center. Requires Center to provide an array of individualized, targeted, culturally appropriate, gender-responsive, and trauma-informed services. Requires YWCA to collect data. Requires CJC to work with the YWCA and any third-party contractors to track performance and provide data analysis. Requires the YWCA and CJC to report on the outcomes of Center to the Legislative Assembly before September 15, 2021, and every two years thereafter. Appropriates funding to the CJC for distribution to the YWCA. Sunsets January 1, 2025. Requires DOC to designate at least one employee as a gender-responsive officer who will, no later than October 15, 2020, conduct an assessment of the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility to determine whether the processes, programs, and protections at the facility, including the protections from, and responses to, sexual harassment and assault are gender-responsive, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed. Requires the gender-responsive officer to provide a 10-year improvement plan. Requires the gender-responsive officer to convene an advisory council to aid in the assessment and development of the 10-year plan. Provides key definitions.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of the Family Preservation Project (FPP)
- Recidivism rates for FPP participants
- Illinois legislation designed to create a gender-responsive correctional system
- CJC Justice Reinvestment Summit presentations and discussion about gender-responsive criminal justice systems

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Eighty-four percent of incarcerated women are mothers and over half of them will not see their children during their prison sentence. Since the early 2000s the YWCA of Greater Portland has hosted a program for incarcerated women called the Family Preservation Project (FPP). The FPP provides targeted support to incarcerated mothers that provides tools for women and families in the criminal justice system to increase self-reliance, family stability, and successful parenting upon reentry. Research conducted in 2014 found that participants in the FPP were more likely to be parenting post-incarcerated and that their children had better educational outcomes than mothers and families who did not participate in the FPP. The Intensive Family Reunification component of the program has

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demonstrated a recidivism rate of just over three percent as compared to the 30 percent recidivism rate generally for post-incarcerated individuals in Oregon.

At the 2019 Criminal Justice Commission Justice Reinvestment Summit, national experts presented on the importance of providing trauma-informed and gender-responsive systems and programming for incarcerated women as a means to reducing recidivism. In 2016, the Illinois legislature passed HB 1479. That measure codified requirements to ensure that correctional institutions in Illinois provide "gender-responsive" and "trauma-informed practices" to women in their custody.

House Bill 3300 A directs DOC, in collaboration with CJC, to create a pilot program establishing the Center for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility which is to be administered by the YWCA. It also requires data collection and biannual reporting on the outcomes of the Center to the Legislative Assembly. Correspondingly, HB 3300 A requires DOC to hire a gender-responsive officer to convene an advisory committee, assess Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, and provide a 10-year improvement plan describing how to make Coffee Creek Correctional Facility more gender-responsive, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed.