

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 17: Department of Corrections Overtime Usage**

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To:           Ways and Means Full Committee  
From:        Public Safety Subcommittee  
Carrier:      Senator Gorsek

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The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on efforts to reduce the use of overtime in prisons operated by the Department of Corrections.

To alleviate the use of unplanned overtime, the Legislature added \$21.6 million General Fund and 107 new positions to the Department of Corrections' 2021-23 budget, along with a budget note requiring reports to the Legislature during the interim on how the new positions are reducing the use of overtime. The agency reports that due to a number of difficulties with hiring both corrections officers and health care staff for the state's prisons, its use of overtime has been increasing over the first three months of this biennium. The Subcommittee discussed the factors that might be impeding the agency's hiring efforts, the safety of staff and adults in custody, and when the new positions might be hired. The Department of Corrections will return with an updated report in January 2022.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.