



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Department of Corrections

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September 22, 2022

Senator Prozanski, Chair

Senate Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation Committee

900 Court Street NE

Salem, OR 97301-4048



RE: PowerPoint slides requested as follow-up to the Senate Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation Committee meeting of September 21, 2022

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify about the department's work to bring effective change to Special Housing services for adults in custody (AICs). I have included the PowerPoint slides that contain our speaking notes.

I also want to recognize the testimony of our partners; specifically, that of Mr. Pickens and Mr. Hedquist who had been incarcerated in Oregon. While their perspectives were difficult to hear, we appreciate having their voices at the table. To be clear: the behavior of staff that they articulated has always been outside our policies and values and does not align with the mission of the Department of Corrections (DOC). Their stories illustrate the reasons our agency has been focused on reform since 2015. We have changed who goes to Disciplinary Segregation Unit (DSU) as well as for how long they are there. We are also focused on changing the conditions of such confinement.

DOC employees are continuing to make improvements to restrictive housing and use this tool when serious violations occur that threaten the safety and security of those who live and work inside Oregon's prisons.

We must thoughtfully and methodically engage AICs and employees to achieve Oregon's desired and long-lasting cultural change. I look forward to continuing the conversation.

Sincerely,

Heidi Steward

Acting Director

Oregon Department of Corrections