

SB 720 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/2, 3/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), in collaboration with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to establish the Family Preservation pilot program at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (Coffee Creek). Requires the program be administered by the YWCA of Greater Portland (YWCA). Sets goals for the program, which include reducing recidivism and reducing the trauma experienced by children of incarcerated parents. Permits the program to provide services to parents incarcerated at Coffee Creek, children of the parents and caregivers of the children if eligible based on the provided guidelines. Requires the YWCA and the DOC to contribute services and resources to the program. Requires the CJC to contribute data collection, research and analysis support. Requires the CJC, DOC and representatives of the program to meet quarterly with other state agencies to discuss and provide updates on the implementation and outcomes of the program. Requires the CJC to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024 and every two years thereafter. Appropriates to the CJC \$650,000. Program sunsets on January 1, 2029. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Connecting incarcerated parents with their children and reunifying after release
- Services to some of the most vulnerable children
- Percentage of women who had a minor child living with them before incarceration
- Leveraging state and private investments
- Best practices

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Family Preservation Project is a program administered by the YWCA of Greater Portland that provides family-centered services for inmates and children of inmates at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville. The program helps inmates maintain connections with their families and prepare for reintegration with society upon release. The YWCA of Greater Portland took over administration of the Family Preservation Project from the Oregon Department of Corrections through legislation passed in 2015. Senate Bill 720 appropriates \$650,000 to the Family Preservation Project.