

SB 19 -7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Prepared By: Chris Allanach, Legislative Revenue Officer

Meeting Dates: 3/11, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the state to transfer the title and assets of a closed state correctional institution to the county in which the institution is located. The department may not generally remove any fixtures except under certain circumstances. Allows the county to rezone the affected land by ordinance. Applies to institutions closed on or after January 1, 2021. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Value of transferring the property
- Need for an additional amendment
- Opportunity to repurpose a valuable asset
- Potential uses such a residential treatment facility

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-7 Replaces the bill. Directs the Department of Corrections to transfer title of the Warner Creek Correctional Facility to Lake County. Requires the transfer to occur no later than 180 days after all adults have been transferred to another facility and the department provides the county with written notice of the closure. Allows the department to withdraw the offer if it is not accepted within 30 days. The transfer includes all fixtures except those that are appropriate to transfer to another facility. Requires the county to bear transaction and closing costs. Allows the county to amend its land use regulations under certain conditions.

BACKGROUND:

The Governor is expected to close three correctional facilities by July 2022. Mill Creek Correctional Facility in Salem is expected to be closed by July 2021. Shutter Creek Correctional Institution in North Bend is expected to be closed by January 2022. Finally, Warner Creek Correctional Facility in Lakeview is expected to be closed by July 2022. As stated in the Governor's Budget, the closure of these three facilities is the result of a continued decline in the prison population, increased sentence commutations, and success of the Short Term Transitional Leave program. The closures are projected to save \$42.7 million (General Fund) during the 2021-23 biennium and avoid future maintenance costs.