



## ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

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Eric Guyer  
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Community  
Corrections

*Committed To,  
And Value,  
Offender  
Reformation,  
Services to  
Victims, Crime  
Prevention, And  
Community  
Restoration*

[www.oaccd.net](http://www.oaccd.net)

Chair Bynum, Vice Chair Nobel, Vice Chair Power and members of the House Judiciary Committee. My name is Aaron Hartman, I am the Director for Klamath County Community Corrections. I am here today to speak on behalf of the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors and our opposition to House Bill 2002

Even though OACCD is opposed to this bill there are encouraging aspects.

OACCD is encouraged by the voices of lived experience speaking out to create change, encouraged by community advocates bringing together groups to move the system forward. OACCD is encouraged by equity taking center stage as we look honestly at the work that is performed by community corrections and encouraged by conversations that continue help Oregon make the shift from a Community Corrections system solely of punitive actions, to restoration and behavior change.

Community corrections in Oregon continues efforts to transform our profession to one based largely in restoration and behavior change. OACCD is transforming Oregon community corrections with Evidenced Based Core Correctional Practices and Trauma Informed programming.

Sections 27 and 28 seek to dictate the clothing worn by officers and the situations in which officers may carry a firearm. These provisions fail to take into account the varied needs and realities of different communities and systems of care within Oregon. An officer visiting a ranch in Christmas Valley in Lake County may be two hours away from any other law enforcement officer. An officer in Josephine County shares office space with their own in-house substance use disorder treatment program. These decisions need to be made at the local level with significant emphasis on both being trauma informed and responsive as well as providing for officer safety within the community.

Section 30 proposes utilizing a "30 for 30" model of reducing a person's term of supervision. The model fails to recognize Oregon's own innovative earned discharge program and removes the need for the individual to report to their Probation Officer to earn the reduction. Oregon has a better model in Earned Discharge and is using it to increase the incentives available to those on supervision, while reducing the footprint of the criminal justice system.

Section 31 looks to eliminate supervision fees, which at its core, could lead to a stronger path of recovery for those being supervised. However, without replacement funding, many communities will lose valuable programming around housing, employment and treatment services.

Sections 31 and 32 also look to restrict the circumstances by which a justice involved individual can have their probation case revoked. By limiting the criteria for a revocation to a willful abscond or conviction of an A Person Misdemeanor or a felony, the bill will eliminate revocation for the actions of those who would do devastating harm to victims in our communities. A justice involved individual on supervision for Domestic Violence could not be revoked for continual harassment or threats against the survivor. A person on supervision for a Sex Offense could not be revoked for continuing to have contact with children. The Bill strips away protections for those who are most vulnerable within our communities.



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The bill also looks to take away immediate responses to violations around use of a controlled substance. As a State we are embarking on a bold journey to look at substance use as a health condition and build a commensurate response. Until that response and supports are fully available, officers and specialty courts need to have local responses around continued harmful use that involves the full spectrum of interventions and the funding to provide these resources.

At its core, the provisions in HB 2002 that address Community Corrections fail to remember that one of the central functions of Community Corrections is to provide a viable sentencing option for those Oregonians who would otherwise be imprisoned. By removing and limiting the available responses, this bill will undermine the faith that prosecutors have in probation, and cause more direct sentences to prison.

Oregon is a national leader in Community Corrections. Senate Bill 1145 establishing Local Control, Senate Bill 267 requiring evidence-based practices and House Bill 3194 creating the Justice Reinvestment Initiative are all examples of how Oregon has utilized partnerships between legislators, researchers, advocates and practitioners to transform the way we provide services within the criminal justice system. To truly create an equitable system that works for all Oregonians, we need to create strong partnerships where lived experience, legislators, advocates and practitioners come together to build solutions that work. HB 2002 has not done this, and it presents both a risk to public safety with the potential to decrease the options for justice-involved individuals to succeed within the communities.

As such the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors is opposing House Bill 2002.