

Written Testimony – SB 5534

May 7, 2021

To: Co-Chairs Senator Fred Girod, Representative Paul Holvey,
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Sub-Committee on Capital Construction

Fr: Klamath County Commissioner Derrick DeGroot

Re: Lottery Bond request for Klamath Crimson Rose (KCR) Construction Project

For the 2021 Legislative Session, Klamath County applied for \$12 million in Lottery Bond funds for the Klamath Crimson Rose (KCR) Construction Project.

Klamath County's KCR program is an intensive residential treatment and educational program for teen girls from all over Oregon who are in the custody of the Oregon Youth Authority.

The goal of KCR is to prepare clients to return to community placement instead of commitment to OYA's youth correctional system. KCR removes youth from the pipeline to corrections.

Klamath County plans to demolish the oldest juvenile detention building in Oregon and replace it with residential treatment homes and educational facilities for the KCR program.

A \$1 million lottery award from 2017 is currently paying local contractors for pre-construction site development and educational improvements. This project is underway and shovel-ready.

Klamath County owns the project site and recently expanded it by adding an adjacent parcel.

Klamath County is applying for \$12 million in lottery funds to complete this project. Klamath County's application with LFO for lottery funds commits to a \$1 million county match.

The KCR Construction Project will employ 200 construction workers over a two-year period. Endorsements include Laborer's Local 737, The Klamath Tribes, Klamath County Juvenile Court, and the Klamath County Board of County Commissioners.

This project has been re-designed and right-sized to include residential treatment spaces in home-like settings emphasizing emotional support providing each client with her own room to enhance a sense of privacy, safety, empowerment, and well-being. The project will provide space for education, counseling, recreation, vocational classes, and gardening.

In 2019, KCR's educational service promoted eight clients to high school graduation while they attended the KCR rehabilitation program.

Placing clients in rehabilitation programs like KCR saves Oregon general fund dollars because **75%** of the cost is reimbursed to OYA by federal Medicaid funding.

Please support Klamath County's request for \$12 million in lottery funds for the KCR Construction Project. Thank you.