

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT 2021: TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY SAFETY

Building on our success for a safer, more equitable Oregon



We are all safer when communities have the support and opportunities they need to thrive. Many of our current public safety policies are focused on punishing, rather than healing. They ignore the needs of crime victims and survivors while worsening conditions that cause harm and violence.

This broken system disproportionately impacts Black, Indigenous, and other people of color. Oregonians across the state have been calling on our leaders to shrink the harmful criminal justice system and invest in local, community-based responses that strengthen our families.

It is time to work together to build a different vision of public safety — one that is built on accountability, healing, and opportunity.

Justice Reinvestment has provided a blueprint for Oregon: Reduce the use of state taxpayer dollars on ineffective incarceration, and instead invest in local communities across the state.

OREGONIANS SUPPORT JUSTICE REINVESTMENT 2021



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Justice Reinvestment 2021 (HB 2002) builds on JRI (2013) with bold steps to bring needed reforms to community safety.

Together we can address the devastating impacts of the criminal justice system on communities of color by reforming mandatory sentencing, implementing more equitable responses to crime, and reinvesting in culturally specific services.

- Reinvest in community-based services that are culturally specific and centered in healing
- Support survivors by increasing funding for and access to community-based victim services
- Rebuild lives after incarceration, and reimagine probation and parole to reduce the likelihood of reincarceration and reoffending while increasing public safety
- Strengthen the role of courts to match the prison sentence to the specific facts of each case, reforming the 1990s-era mandatory minimum sentences that led to mass incarceration
- Protect against COVID outbreaks in jails and prisons, and prevent unnecessary or inappropriate incarceration
- Free-up resources for housing and healthcare by ending the use of arrest and incarceration as the default response to unmet healthcare and other basic needs
- Ensure reforms and reporting that reduce racial disparities in the justice system



SUPPORT
SURVIVORS



REINVEST IN
COMMUNITIES



REBUILD AFTER
INCARCERATION



REFORM
MANDATORY
MINIMUMS



PROTECT
FROM COVID



HOUSING AND
HEALTHCARE

BY THE END OF THE 2021-23 BIENNIUM, JUSTICE REINVESTMENT IS PROJECTED TO
SAVE OREGON OVER \$527 MILLION

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POLICY PROPOSALS

Reinvest in community-based services that are culturally specific and centered in healing

- Add to the allowable uses of Justice Reinvestment to include focuses on health and healing, community-based organizations, and culturally specific services
- Dedicate 20% of funds to culturally-specific organizations
- Create a third-party fiscal agent for the funds that would provide technical assistance to culturally specific services and organizations. This third-party would directly award the funds, though the Criminal Justice Commission would still house the fund (similar to the Oregon Worker Relief Fund)

Support survivors by increasing funding for and access to community-based victim services

- Change the funding structure of Justice Reinvestment (JRI) to allocate 15% of available funds to victims, instead of 10%
- Make JRI victim funding unrestricted to include services for health and healing
- Fund victim services that support victims who are incarcerated

Rebuild lives after incarceration, and reimagine probation and parole to reduce the likelihood of reincarceration while increasing public safety

- Limit revocations to prison for people who are willfully absconding or who commit a new crime that is a Class C Felony or Person A Misdemeanor or higher
- Incentivize success by enabling people on supervision to earn 30 days off their supervision for those who complete 30 days without willfully absconding from supervision or without being convicted of a Class C Felony or Person A Misdemeanor or higher.
- Demilitarize community corrections officers by limiting their ability to carry weapons
- Good faith efforts at payment of restitution or completing ordered treatment would not be barriers to being released from supervision
- People who successfully complete the Alternative Incarceration Program or Short-term Transitional Leave would serve no more than one year on post-prison supervision.
- Judges and the parole board would limit the number and complexity of conditions imposed on supervision

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POLICY PROPOSALS

Strengthen the role of courts to match the prison sentence to the specific facts of each case, reforming the 1990s-era mandatory minimum sentences that led to mass incarceration

- Make all Measure 11 sentences into guidelines; move sentences for two lower-level crimes (Robbery II and Assault II) from 70 months to 30 months to address the biggest drivers of incarceration and decrease racial disparities.

Protect against COVID outbreaks in jails and prisons, and prevent unnecessary or inappropriate incarceration

- Prevent admission to jail for people who show symptoms of a contagious virus or who need acute medical or psychiatric care
- Continue to allow tele-reporting enacted during COVID to alleviate burdens for people on supervision with regard to transportation, time spent in waiting rooms, and ability to maintain employment

Free-up resources for housing and healthcare by ending the use of arrest and incarceration as the default response to unmet healthcare and other basic needs

- Limit an officer's authority to make a warrantless arrest if the alleged conduct is a non-person misdemeanor that wasn't committed in the officer's presence. An arrest could still be made in these circumstances with a warrant
- Make certain offenses into a citation only
- Reduce pretextual stops by limiting the types of infractions for which an officer can initiate a traffic stop
- Revise or eliminate conditions related to substance use disorder (SUD) to comply with M110 and a public health approach to SUD
- Eliminate fines and fees associated with supervision

Reporting that reduces racial disparities in the justice system

- Require biennial reporting from CJC on the amount and percent of JRI dollars that go to culturally specific organizations and services; any disparate impacts of supervision conditions along with other critical information will also be included in the report. This data will be disaggregated by race, gender, sexual orientation, and counties served.