

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 26: Department of Corrections Substance Use Disorder Pilot

To: Emergency Board
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Evans

The Public Safety Subcommittee received a report from the Department of Corrections on the status of implementation of a substance use disorder pilot program and other efforts to reduce drugs and contraband in corrections institutions.

The Department's report indicates that the programs are still in the initial stages. The substance use disorder pilot is operating at the Oregon State Penitentiary and the Snake River Correctional Institute. Some staff are in place and peer mentors trained, although hiring challenges remain for qualified behavioral health professional positions. The K-9 program has two trained units operating at the State Penitentiary and Oregon State Correctional Institute, conducting searches four days a week for about 10 hours per day. The Subcommittee received a demonstration from one of the K-9 units.

Finally, wastewater sampling is being conducted at all three of the above institutions, establishing baseline data to compare and analyze results of the substance use disorder pilot and K-9 operations.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report from the Department of Corrections on the status of implementation of a substance use disorder pilot program, operation of two K-9 units, and wastewater testing in corrections institutions.