

Oregon Department of Corrections

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March 15, 2023



The Honorable Paul Evans, Co-Chair The Honorable Janeen Sollman, Co-Chair Public Safety Subcommittee on Ways and Means 900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety,

Below is the question and response from the March 14, 2023, Department of Corrections (DOC) Senate Bill 5504 Information Meeting.

1. How many AICs were released by Early Medical Release?

In 2022, there were 31 adults in custody (AICs) who applied for, or were released, for Early Medical Release (EMR). The breakdown of that 31 is below.

- 14 were ineligible.
- Nine were denied because none were terminally ill (with a prognosis of 12 months or less to live) or were unable to move from place to place without assistance from another person.
- Five releases were granted.
- Two AICs passed away within 15 days of the Parole Board receiving the initial request and before the Parole Board could make the decision.
- One was pending in order to find appropriate housing.

When deciding to advance the release date of an AIC, the Board considers:

- The age of the AIC;
- A medical authority's determination of whether the AIC is unable to move from place to place without the assistance of another person;
- Whether the AIC has a terminal illness defined as a medical authority's reasonable belief that the AIC's life expectancy is less than twelve months;
- A medical authority's description of the nature and severity of AIC's medical condition;
- Whether advancing the release date is compatible with the best interests of the AIC and society;
- DOC Director or designee's recommendation regarding whether advancing the release date is compatible with the best interests of the AIC and society;
- The AIC's release plan, which shall include information, verified by DOC staff, describing the AIC's housing options in the community and medical continuation of care

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Regarding questions related to our victim notification system, I understand there will be additional questions on this subject. We will- answer all victim notification system questions in one response once received.

Sincerely,

Heidi Steward Acting Director Oregon Department of Corrections