



OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE
EXCELLENCE IN POLICING

PO Box 21719 Keizer OR 97307



OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
JOIN . SERVE . PROTECT .

PO Box 7468 Salem OR 97303

To: Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety

From: Curtis Landers, Lincoln County Sheriff
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Chris Skinner, Eugene Police Chief
Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police

Date: February 14, 2023

Re: SB 5505- Testimony in support-CJC Budget

Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Evans and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police (OACP) we submit this testimony in support of SB 5505, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) budget.

The CJC provides several important services to the State of Oregon, including data analysis, technical assistance and grants that are utilized by Oregon Public Safety agencies. We would like to begin by noting that the Criminal Justice Commission is respected by the wide range of stakeholders who care about our public safety system in Oregon. They are rightfully viewed as a fair and impartial organization that wants to "get it right" when it comes to analysis of data. As decision makers, you depend on data that is trustworthy to make important decisions about funding and policy. As law enforcement leaders, the analysis and technical assistance the CJC provides is helping us to address inequities and better ensure the most just outcomes in policing. Thank you for funding the Criminal Justice Commission to perform this important work.

As mentioned previously, the Criminal Justice Commission also manages some very important grant programs that are evidence-based and measured for outcomes to ensure that results justify your investment. The Governor's Recommended Budget included an increase in funding for Justice Reinvestment (JRI) over previous biennia which is very positive news. Below are a few highlights of what this funding has accomplished and supports.

- The Justice Reinvestment grant program (JRI) funds prison diversion programming, focused on reducing prison usage while also reducing recidivism and keeping communities safe, for nonviolent offenses.
- JRI has saved the state at least \$634.5 million in state-costs avoided since the program began and provided local community justice systems about \$200 million

- The grant program supports a variety of locally driven prison diversion options, including but not limited to: pretrial release programming, community supervision, treatment services and supports, and reentry services, such as peer mentoring and assistance with housing, education, and employment
- JRI funds 192 positions, including probation and community supervision positions but also positions such as treatment service providers and specialty court judges across 33 counties
- Participation in the JRI program has helped improve coordination, communication, and accountability discussions within local justice systems
- JRI facilitates conversations about evidence-based practices among local leaders and stakeholders
- JRI provides nearly \$5 million for victims' services providers in the 33 counties, which is particularly impactful in rural and frontier areas of the state that may only have only a few, or in five counties, only one, victims' services provider

Unfortunately, the Governor's Recommended budget only funded the CJC's Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program (IMMEG) at the base \$6M in marijuana tax funding that was initially allocated in the 2021 Legislative session. To address the humanitarian crisis and severe livability issues in Southern Oregon (that have now spread across the state), the legislature added \$26m to law enforcement and \$6m to community-based organizations, for a total of \$32m. Efforts to address these issues are made in a two-pronged approach, through grants to Community Based Organizations (CBO's) and to Law Enforcement. Director Sanchagrin has provided this committee with the positive outcomes that have been documented because of these additional funds. We ask that this Committee support increasing the CJC's IMMEG grant funds to a total of \$51 million (\$6 million base funding plus \$45 million) so that the critical programs that are supporting efforts to address the humanitarian crisis and livability issues aren't reduced and are funded at the level recommended by the Task Force on Cannabis-Derived Intoxicants and Illegal Cannabis Production (HB 3000 Task Force). These programs are critical to keeping our communities around the state safe and livable.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and we are happy to answer any questions the committee may have.