

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 12: Department of Corrections FORGE Fatherhood

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Broadman

The Public Safety Subcommittee heard a request from the Department of Corrections for retroactive approval to submit a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Family, Opportunity, Resilience, Grit, and Engagement - Fatherhood grant.

The Department has applied for \$1.3 million in funding that would expand the Family Advocate program, currently operating at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, to male adults in custody at other facilities. The program is in partnership with the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Division and would include parenting education, enhanced visitation, and case coordination.

The grant has no match requirement. If awarded, the Department will work with the Oregon Department of Justice to confirm it can meet the federal terms and conditions prior to accepting any funds.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means retroactively approve the submission of a federal grant application by the Department of Corrections to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in the amount of \$1.3 million, to support incarcerated men in coordinating child welfare cases and improve parenting skills.