

## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

### **Item 14: Department of Corrections Medications for Opioid Use Disorder**

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

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The Public Safety Subcommittee heard a request from the Department of Corrections on the costs associated with providing medications used in treating opioid use disorder to adults in custody.

In 2019, the Department of Corrections initiated a pilot program that provided medication for opioid use disorder to a small subset of adults in custody releasing from the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. Since then, providing these medications to adults in custody has become common practice across the nation and is now considered medically necessary care. The program was never initially funded, and the agency has worked to offset the cost by utilizing other budget savings. However, with costs now exceeding \$21 million, the agency is requesting General Fund.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend including an increase of \$21,522,020 General Fund for the Department of Corrections in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2026 legislative session to address the cost of medication used in treating opioid use disorder.