The Oregon Business Association (OBA) supports Justice Reinvestment of $58.5 million in the Criminal Justice Commission's 2015-17 budget.

The Oregon Business Association supports $58.5M for justice reinvestment, because it embodies the key policy features that will not only make Oregon safer, but bend the cost curve of public safety spending down and help Oregon keep its financial house in order.

The Criminal Justice Commission's (CJC) proposal represents the sound financial practices that successful Oregon businesses use; find smart ways to cut costs and reinvest those savings into services that will bring a return on investment. Justice reinvestment does just that, finds savings through smart, evidence based, cost effective programs and reinvests those savings back into those programs to reduce recidivism, giving us a return on our investment.

OBA supports the CJC in its request because it encompasses our four public safety guiding principles:

1. **Safe Communities**. OBA supports actions that will continue the reduction of crime in Oregon; and OBA requires a safe environment for the conduct of business and for its members, their
   employees, customers and families.

2. **Recognize Interconnectedness**. Addressing corrections reform is necessary if we are to provide essential state services and achieve other statewide goals such as the education goals of 40/40/20 or comprehensive revenue reform.

3. **Control the Size of the Prison Population**. Increased incarceration is not the most effective way to make Oregon safer. Oregon needs to control the size of the inmate population and the associated cost (Oregon is projected to build 2,000 more prison beds at a construction and operational cost of $600 million over the next 10 years). No beds and no bonds in the biennium.

4. **Justice Reinvestment**. OBA supports the reinvestment of avoided costs in effective, evidence-based public safety programs that give taxpayers the most effective use of funds while continuing to reduce crime at a lower rate of incarceration.

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