



ACCOUNTABILITY



ADDICTION & MENTAL  
HEALTH TREATMENT



VICTIM  
SERVICES

# UNITED FOR JUSTICE

SUPPORT SB 5506 - JUSTICE REINVESTMENT

## Support \$53 million for Justice Reinvestment

Sentencing reforms and investment dollars are putting Oregon on course to establish a public safety approach that is both more effective and less costly. That path avoids the need to build or bond for a new prison for at least the next five years and is estimated to save the state \$300 million.

Passing HB 3194 during the 2013 legislative session was an important step, but only the first one in a multi-year process to rebalance how Oregon prioritizes its spending and the safety of its residents. The success of HB 3194 depends on lawmakers' continued commitment to a new way of addressing public safety through dedicated resources to build an infrastructure of more cost-effective means of crime prevention and recidivism reduction.

Recent prison forecasts have shown that HB 3194 has been largely effective in flatlining prison growth, for now. But changing the trajectory of our public safety system away from an over-reliance on prisons to one that has a strong local infrastructure will take time. Oregon must continue to invest in counties so that they can develop and expand programs that help prevent crime and reduce the need for expensive prison beds. These essential, and currently underfunded, local programs include addiction and mental health treatment, victim services, and re-entry support for people released from prisons and jails.

During the last biennium, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) distributed \$15 million in justice reinvestment grant funds for counties to implement needed services and sanctions at the local level to keep Oregon on target to avert future prison construction costs. These programs, services, and sanctions are just getting started and will take time to evaluate, adjust, and become truly effective at reducing crime and victimization.

Current estimates predict that Justice Reinvestment will save Oregon \$53 million in averted corrections costs for the upcoming biennium. **We urge you to fully fund justice reinvestment at \$53 million in the CJC budget (SB 5506).**

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ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

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