



ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

SB 360:

General Statement of Support for Community Service in lieu of Court Ordered Financial Obligations

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Restoration*

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Senate Judiciary Chairman Senator Floyd Prozanski, members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly's Senate Committee on Judiciary, my name is Steve Berger and I am the Director of Washington County Community Corrections. I am providing written testimony on behalf of the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors (OACCD).

The OACCD wishes to voice general support of SB 360 which seeks to provide increased opportunities for those with delinquent Court ordered financial obligations to perform community service. Our association has met with Senator Lew Fredrick, who is sponsoring this bill, and we agree the financial obligations for many under formal Probation, Parole, and Post-Prison supervision can often be unattainable.

Within Community Corrections, those under formal Probation, Parole, and Post-Prison supervision are currently provided the opportunity to perform community service in lieu of court ordered financial obligations – except restitution, compensatory fines, and those statutorily prohibited. The general practice is that the supervising Probation and Parole Officer (PPO) requests the financial obligation be converted to community service through an amended order to the Court. The conversion formula is based upon the local minimum wage. The person is then referred to a local non-profit, or community service program, to perform the hours. This process works well in our state's 36 counties. As an example, in Washington County over \$172,000 of court ordered financial obligations were converted to community service between 2014 and 2016.

While there is a process for those under formal community supervision to make such a conversion – court ordered financial obligations into community service – our association is not aware of the structure for those under informal or Court monitored situations. As such, it would appear there is a need to establish a model for those not under the formal supervision of Community Corrections.

Today I am requesting this bill continue to move forward with the acknowledgment there is a structure to convert Court ordered financial obligations for those under the formal supervision of Community Corrections. The details that remain to be worked through include a structure for those not under formal supervision to convert allowable Court ordered financial obligations into community service.

Thank you for your consideration.

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