



Trauma Informed Oregon

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Date March 1, 2021

TO: Chair Bynum and members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Mandy Davis, LCSW, PhD
Director TIO
Associate Professor of Practice

SUBJECT: HB 3096 Directs Department of Corrections to study issues specific to women in custody

Chair Bynum and members of the committee I am the Director of Trauma Informed Oregon and Associate Professor of Practice at Portland State University School of Social Work. I am writing in support of HB 3096. I was part of the Gender Responsive Workgroup and have appreciated the voices from those with lived experiences recommending the need for an independent assessment to inform investments and needed changes.

Trauma Informed Oregon (TIO) is a statewide collaborative aimed at preventing and ameliorating the impact of adverse experiences on children, adults, and families. Trauma Informed Oregon works in partnership with providers, individuals with lived experience, and families to promote and sustain trauma informed policies and practices across physical, mental, and behavioral health systems and to disseminate promising strategies to support wellness and resilience.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), toxic stress and trauma are recognized as a public health crisis. Adversity, trauma, and toxic stress includes the negative experiences that come from experiencing abuse and neglect, living in poverty, incarceration, family separation, and exposure to racism and discrimination. The relationship between being involved in the judicial system, trauma, substance use, systemic oppression, and poverty is dynamic and well documented. Addressing adversity and the significant negative impacts on families and communities means supporting strategies across the continuum from prevention to treatment.

Thank you for this time.
Mandy Davis, LCSW, PhD
Director Trauma Informed Oregon