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OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION JOIN.SERVE.PROTECT.

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## To: Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety

From: Sheriff Angela Brandenburg, Clackamas County Sheriff's Office On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association & the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police angiebran@clackamas.us

> Sheriff Matt English, Hood River County Sheriff's Office On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association & the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police <u>matt.english@co.hood-river.or.us</u>

**Date:** March 10, 2021

## Re: Testimony in Support of the Department of Corrections Budget – HB 5004

## Co-Chairs Gorsek and Sollman and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police OACP), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 5004, the Department of Corrections Budget.

OSSA and OACP would like to recognize Director Collette Peters for her continued partnership and great working relationship with both Associations. Director Peters and her team faced a number of unprecedented challenges this past year. In response to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Corrections worked quickly to establish safety protocols in order to protect adults in custody (AIC's). In response to the wildfire threat, they quickly and safely evacuated all adults in custody lodged at the Coffee Creek Correctional Institute. Throughout both of these challenges, Director Peters remained in constant contact with both associations, sharing information and providing updates to stakeholders as the agency addressed these very complex issues. We appreciate Director Peters collaborative and partnership focused approach as well as the leadership she provides to her agency.

OSSA and OACP support HB 5004 with a particular focus on the importance of adequate grant and aide baseline community corrections funding. This funding supports local community corrections operations of supervision, sanctions and services in counties and local communities throughout the state. Grant and aide community corrections funding is the foundation by which services are provided for individuals returning to our communities from prison as well as individuals who are placed on probation. Other funds such as M57, AIP, and Justice Re-investment are additional funding sources that are essential to the provision of services and alternative program delivery to

this supervised population. The strategic use of these funds is resulting in decreases in both the prison population and the supervised population.

In closing OSSA and OACP are in full support of HB 5004 and we would be happy to answer any questions the committee might have. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.