



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Criminal Justice Commission

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30 April 2021

The Honorable Barbara Smith Warner, Chair  
The Honorable Christine Drazen, Vice Chair  
The Honorable Paul Holvey, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Rules

**RE: House Bill 2002-4 work draft dated 28 April 2021**

\*Non-Voting

Chair Smith Warner and members of the committee, I am providing this testimony to share information concerning HB 2002, with a specific focus on Sections 25 through 33 of the work draft dash-4 amendment, dated 28 April 2021. In brief, Sections 25 through 33 of dash-4 work draft propose several changes to the Justice Reinvestment Program (JRI) administered by Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), as well as changes related to data collection and reporting to be undertaken by the CJC in the future related to JRI.

The primary areas of concern for the CJC are contained in Section 26. Within Section 26, the HB 2002-4 work draft proposes awarding 20 percent of JRI funds to community-based culturally specific organizations through a fiscal agent, the Northwest Health Foundation Fund II. Further, Section 26 also permits the Northwest Health Foundation Fund II to retain up to 15 percent of the funds it distributes for administrative costs or technical assistance.

The changes proposed in Section 26 would represent a significant shift in funds currently utilized for JRI away from county-based programming that has resulted in substantial reductions in prison utilization within the state. To illustrate the size of this impact, removing 20 percent from the county-based JRI grant program would represent a loss of approximately \$8.2M based on the 21-23 Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB). While other community-based programming could take its place, the interruption of current county-based offerings could lead to negative impacts on prison use in the short and medium term. Further, given that the CJC currently caps administrative costs at 10% for its grantees, allowing up to 15% administrative costs for the fiscal agent would lead to a \$410,870 reduction in funding for clients of JRI programs based on the 21-23 GRB, which would deprive current and future JRI clients of valuable services currently provided by JRI Programs. Finally, with the transfer of funding and grant making authority to a fiscal agent, CJC is concerned with the ability to adequately oversee the awarding and management of these funds, as this falls outside of our normal structure that is overseen by a statutorily constituted Grant Review Committee with final approval by our Commission, both of which are subject to public meeting rules and standards.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer and questions you may have or provide any additional detail or clarification you require.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Sanchagrin

