



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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DATE: February 16, 2023

TO: Honorable Members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary

FROM: Brian Henson, Interim Director

SUBJECT: DPSST Testimony: SB 211

Summary: SB 211 would repeal the sunset on the requirement for the Department of Corrections (DOC) to provide training for basic certification to the corrections officers employed by the DOC.

Background: The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), in conjunction with the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (Board), sets the minimum standards for the training and certification of Oregon's city, county, and state corrections officers. Before 2010, all corrections officers received basic corrections officer training through the DPSST. In 2009, HB 3199 directed the DOC to provide training for basic certification of corrections officers employed by the DOC. HB 3199 had an original sunset date of January 2, 2014. In 2013, HB 2235 extended the sunset date to January 2, 2026.

The DPSST is funded for ten basic corrections local (BCL) classes during the 2021-2023 biennium, and each class holds up to 40 city and county corrections officer students. Based on the class schedules and student registration information the DOC submits to the DPSST, the DOC will provide training to approximately 400 state corrections officers during the 2021-2023 biennium.

All of the DOC's state corrections officers and the local city and county corrections officers receive training that meets the curriculum standards approved by the Board. The basic certification that a corrections officer receives after completing the basic corrections officer training and field training is transferable, meaning a change of employer does not require a different basic corrections officer training or a different corrections officer certification.

Effect/Impact of SB 211: The DPSST is neutral on SB 211. Passage of SB 211 and the repeal of the sunset will not result in any fiscal or operational impacts to the DPSST. Repeal of the sunset will maintain the requirement for the DOC to provide training for basic certification to the corrections officers employed by the DOC. As prescribed by other sections of HB 3199 (2009), the training curriculum used by the DOC will continue to be a curriculum approved by the Board and accredited by the DPSST.

Alternatively, if the sunset provision is not removed, the DOC's responsibility to provide the basic corrections officer training course (known as the DOC BCC) will sunset on January 2, 2026. After the sunset, the training of corrections officers employed by the DOC will revert to the DPSST and the Oregon Public Safety Academy. This is expected to have significant fiscal impacts for the DPSST to ensure staffing (FTE), housing, and training facility resources are available to meet the training needs of the DOC.