



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

February 28, 2023

The Honorable Representative Julie Fahey
House Committee on Rules

Subject: House Bill 3216

Chair Fahey and members of the committee, my name is Larry Bennett, and I serve as Assistant Director of the Correctional Services Division for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I am providing testimony on House Bill (HB) 3216.

What the Bill Does:

HB 3216 directs DOC to determine each adult in custody's (AIC's) last-known address, if that address is readily known or available to them, and submit the last-known address information to the Secretary of State. It directs the Secretary of State to adjust population data reported in federal decennial census to reflect all AICs' residence status as it was before incarceration. It requires the legislative assembly or Secretary of State, whichever is applicable, to reapportion the state into legislative districts based on population data adjusted to reflect AICs' last-known address versus current address. It further requires use of the adjusted population data to apportion county or municipal boundaries.

Background Information and Impacts:

If passed, HB 3216 would represent a significant body of new work for DOC. The only address-type information DOC can reliably provide is county of conviction. DOC does not currently collect, nor does it have the means to collect, individuals' last-known address. If passed, HB 3216 will require system revisions to DOC's data collection systems to allow for the addition of the recording and retrieval of this information and to ensure it cannot be altered by other entities with shared access.

Upon arrival at the Coffee Creek Intake Center, AICs participate in a variety of testing and information-gathering sessions with assessment staff. In order to collect this information, a new form will need to be created to gather the last known address. Based on DOC's history in working with incoming AICs, a small percentage will be able to correctly provide their last-known address. This will require DOC staff to conduct research and schedule follow-up meetings with AICs in order to ensure valid, correct, and usable addresses are entered and provided to the Secretary of State. With an average of over 8,400 new intakes every biennium, this represents a significant new and ongoing workload for DOC's three Testing Coordinator

positions, who would be responsible for collecting and entering the gathered information into DOC's data systems.

In addition to newly incoming AICs, in order to comply with HB 3216, DOC would need to hire at least one limited duration Office Specialist I position to collect and enter the data on the existing AIC population. The limited duration staff would be responsible for manually entering the collected last-known address data into a spreadsheet until DOC's Information Technology Unit could complete the revisions to its data systems to allow for entering this information. Once the DOC data system revisions were completed, that position would then be responsible for reentering all the data collected in the spreadsheet into the DOC's data system.

DOC's Research Unit would also need to work with the Secretary of State to determine how to query and present the data to the Secretary of State in a manner that is also functional for their data systems.

There is some vagueness in the bill in that it does not clarify if there is a length of time an AIC must have been living, lawfully or otherwise, at a certain address for it to qualify as a last known address; nor does the bill identify what DOC should record for the last-known address if it is not readily known to the AIC or they choose not to provide the information. Process decisions would need to be put in place for AICs that report they were transient or homeless before incarceration and how that information would be captured.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Submitted by:

Oregon Department of Corrections
Larry Bennett, Assistant Director for Correctional Services
Larry.W.Bennett@doc.state.or.us