

Chairs Sollman and Evans, and members of the committee,

I work as a Corrections Officer for the Oregon Department of Corrections. Our staff levels are so low that, on average, I am required to work mandatory overtime twice a week.

Mandatory overtime abuse makes me dread coming to work, knowing that I may be at work for 16 hours (potentially back-to-back or two days in a row). I am exhausted during my second shift and often worry I am not able to do my job to the best of my ability due to my exhaustion.

It makes having a home life almost impossible.

The impact extreme mandatory overtime has on my health is so bad that I'm beginning to resent doing a job that I enjoy. It makes coming to work unenjoyable.

While I can definitely appreciate the financial aspect of working mandatory overtime, it has caused my personal relationships to deteriorate.

We need to hire more staff, because we can't keep working like this. Please give the Department of Corrections the funding it needs to hire more people.

Alexander Christian Lykins
Oregon Department of Corrections