



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

March 21, 2023

The Honorable Jason Kropf, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

Re: Senate Bill 581-A

Chair Kropf and members of the committee, I am Jeremiah Stromberg, Assistant Director of the Community Corrections Division for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). I am providing written testimony for SB 581-A.

What the Bill Does:

SB 581-A would allow those convicted of certain felonies prior to January 1, 2022, to be eligible for a reduction in the amount of post-prison supervision served provided they meet all other requirements of the program. Such requirements include completion of at least 50% of their supervision period; compliance with supervision and completion or significant progress in treatment and programming; and a clearly defined restitution payment plan with proven progress towards payment.

Impact of the Bill:

DOC has determined that if the bill passes, it will create the opportunity for more than 9,500 cases to be sentence-eligible for a discharge. These are cases, not actual individuals, as many adults in custody have multiple convictions. The number of actual people would be substantially less. It also does not mean that all 9,500 cases would automatically be discharged from supervision. Criteria would have to be met, as outlined in the paragraph above.

There is no fiscal impact on community supervision if this bill were to pass.

Background Information:

DOC, in collaboration with county community corrections agencies, have successfully overseen the Earned Discharge program for probationers since 2014. During this span, more than 9,000 individuals have discharged early, with less than 10% returning to the criminal justice system. In addition, the Criminal Justice Commission's review of the program shows lower recidivism for this population overall.

Submitted by:

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