

Submitter: Nate Gaoiran  
On Behalf Of: OR Association of Community Corrections Directors  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Co Chair Steiner, Co Chair Sanchez and members of Joint Committee on Ways and Means. My name is Nate Gaoiran and I am the current Vice President of the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors as well as the Director of Josephine County Community Corrections located in Southern Oregon.

I am testifying in support of this bill's concept as it relates to overall programming for the Department of Corrections, but request the same funding as the current biennium for Community Corrections at an amount of 284 million dollars. The Governor's recommended Budget fully funds at the baseline level, but we are seeking the same budget as 21-23 biennium. Counties like mine are completely dependent on the Community Corrections Allotment funds and we have done great things with the funds over the years.

We are in partnership with the Department of Corrections and the programming they have implemented has reduced prison costs, and allows for Community Corrections agencies to collaborate with DOC staff as adults in custody transition to community supervision, thereby promoting a warm handoff with person-centered release plans.

Our industry has adopted a person-centered approach for adults on supervision, and has prioritized evidence based practices using evidence informed decisions to guide policy. Person centered approaches for the highest risk individuals on supervision takes resources like probation officers, treatment, transitional housing, intervention strategies, case planning, and training. Our industry applies these dollars to support our practitioners, adults on supervision and is part of the broader public safety programming for healthy communities. In the upcoming biennium, and if you grant us status quo funding specific to community corrections we plan to use the money to continue the strong work and programming of the current biennium, in addition to strategic planning implementation, racial disparity work, justice reform, equity-diversity-inclusion work and evidence-based sanctioning practices.

Thank you for your time and support of Community Corrections.