



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

April 27, 2023

The Honorable Jason Kropf, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

Subject: Senate Bill 211

Chair Kropf and members of the committee, my name is Gail Levario, and I serve as the Assistant Director of the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) Employee Services Division. I am providing written testimony regarding Senate Bill (SB) 211.

What the Bill Does:

Senate Bill 211 would remove the sunset provision in current law and allow the DOC to continue basic certification training of correctional officers employed by the agency. Current Oregon law permits DOC to complete DPSST-approved basic training of department correctional officers hired after January 2, 2014. In collaboration with the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), the DOC seeks to repeal the sunset date of January 2, 2026.

Background Information:

Since 2009, the DOC has provided basic training for certification of corrections practices. DOC develops proposed training standards for the Corrections Policy Committee (CPC) of the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training. The CPC consists of public safety administrators and non-management corrections officers around the state and from all six disciplines DPSST oversees. The CPC makes recommendations, and the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training adopts by rule, minimum training standards for basic certification of correctional officers employed by DOC. Since 2009, DOC has conducted training for 2,474 correctional officers and completed 165 Basic Corrections Courses.

Partnership with DPSST:

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) will continue as the certifying agency and will conduct periodic audits of the Basic Corrections Certification training provided by DOC to ensure compliance with standards. Should DPSST find the training within compliance with standards, DPSST will accredit the training for the same term and upon the same conditions as training programs for correctional officers employed by state and county law enforcement units. Historically, DOC's basic training has met or exceeded DPSST's minimum standards for certification.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Submitted by:

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