

SB 938 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) to award grant funds to a statewide coalition that does not directly provide restorative justice programs but assists or supports other potential grant recipients in applying for restorative justice program grants administered by the CJC. Establishes the Restorative Justice Grant Program Account and continuously appropriates moneys in the account to the CJC for the grant program. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2204, which created the Restorative Justice (RJ) grant program. The purpose of the Restorative Justice Grant Program is to provide public and private entities with financial support for restorative justice programs. A restorative justice program is defined in OAR 213-040-0030(8) as a community-based alternative to the criminal and juvenile legal systems that aims to center the needs of the harmed party and foster accountability within the responsible party without resorting to incarceration or criminal conviction.