

The Multnomah Democrats' Criminal Justice Study Group supports passage of HB 2233.

It is surprising that women serving sentences at Oregon's Coffee Creek prison do not already have legal services to assist them with reentry and reintegration into local communities, reduction of vulnerability to domestic violence, obtainment of employment, housing services and other benefits and to help with other legal issue facing an adult in custody.

HB 2233 would establish a program to provide these essential services, and the Oregon Justice Resource Center is an excellent legal service organization to carry it out, if they can receive the resources to do so. The bill also includes timely evaluation and reporting regarding the success of the program. Besides benefiting the prisoners at Coffee Creek, all the Oregon communities to which these individuals return would also benefit from these individuals' successful futures as a result of such assistance. Therefore, all legislators and all Oregon residents should support these types of programs. Please vote yes!

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