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*Committed To, And
Value, Offender
Reformation,
Services to Victims,
Crime Prevention,
And Community
Restoration*

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The Honorable Senator Anthony Broadman
The Honorable Representative Paul Evans
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Ways And Means Subcommittee On Public
Safety
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Date: March 12, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support for the Department of Corrections and House Bill
5004

Good morning, Co-Chair Broadman, Co-Chair Evans, and members of the
committee. My name is Kiki Parker-Rose, and I am the Community Justice
Director in Jackson County. I am here today on behalf of the Oregon
Association of Community Corrections Directors (OACCD), and I have the
honor of representing the Southern Oregon Directors from Coos, Curry,
Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, and Lake counties.

My colleagues before me have provided an excellent overview of the critical
work we do across the state. From conducting risk assessments and
creating case plans to ensuring accountability, community corrections plays
a crucial role in keeping Oregonians safe and supporting individuals to
change.

Across the state, community corrections provides a balance of supervision,
services, and sanctions. Local control in each county allows us to tailor
strategies to effectively meet the unique needs of our own communities. In
Southern Oregon, our counties employ 194 staff members, which includes
111 certified officers responsible for supervising 4,883 adults on probation
and parole. We prioritize caseloads comprised of medium and high-risk
adults on supervision. Our average, caseloads in our region consist of 50
high- and medium-risk adults per officer.

To put this into perspective, if every individual on our caseload were high-
risk, officers would need to make 150 in-person contacts per month to meet
state standards. This is simply not feasible with the current staffing levels
and resources. The cost to supervise each individual is \$18.18 per day, and
if we were appropriately funded, we could hire the necessary staff, provide
the required services, and impose sanctions when necessary to impact
behavior change, and increase public safety.



OREGON ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

In Southern Oregon, we work diligently to make every dollar count. We fund essential services like housing, sex offender treatment, cognitive programming, domestic violence treatment, polygraph examinations, mentoring, transportation such as bus passes, and even helping individuals on supervision meet their basic needs like clothing and obtaining identification. However, at our current funding level, we are simply unable to meet the needs of every person on our caseload. We cannot provide the level of supervision or the comprehensive support services that are critical for success. This gap in resources directly impacts our ability to make a meaningful difference in reducing risk and promoting behavior change.

One of the most significant challenges in our region is the ongoing issue of drug trafficking and drug use. Jackson, Josephine and Douglas counties are classified as High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA).

Every director in Southern Oregon has seen firsthand the devastating effects of substance abuse on individuals and communities. It is a problem that permeates many of the difficulties we face, from large caseloads to limited treatment options. Some of the specific challenges in our region include:

- **Coos County**, where the number of drug overdoses has increased significantly among individuals on supervision. The rise in substance abuse is putting additional strain on our ability to provide the supervision and services necessary to impact behavior change.
- **Curry County**, where there are limited treatment options and programming for individuals on supervision. This shortage restricts their ability to offer the necessary services to help people on supervision succeed.
- **Douglas County**, where they have seen an increase in public and officer safety concerns which is an important reminder of the critical need to invest in the necessary training and equipment to ensure officer safety.
- **Jackson County**, which continues to see an increase in drug crimes. In addition to this, the ongoing defense attorney crisis in our jurisdiction is putting additional pressure on the entire public safety system, complicating our efforts to ensure accountability.
- **Josephine County**, where drug crimes have been increasing, and the county also faced a troubling 21 pending murder cases in 2024. The rise in violent crime underscores the urgency of investing in community corrections to reduce risk and prevent further criminal activity.
- **Klamath County**, where jail capacity issues—due to decreased staffing—are hindering the ability to use incarceration as a sanction when needed. This situation impacts their ability to hold individuals accountable for their actions.
- **Lake County**, which covers a vast area of 8,200 square miles. Officers in Lake County often need to drive up to two hours to complete fieldwork and office visits, which creates a logistical challenge and delays effective supervision.



OREGON ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

These challenges in Southern Oregon reflect a broader issue facing community corrections across the state. While each jurisdiction has its own specific needs, the fundamental need for adequate funding is universal. Without the resources to hire more staff, expand services, and address the growing demands placed on our officers, we are unable to provide the level of supervision and support that is necessary for individuals to succeed.

Even with these challenges, we are proud of our work across Oregon. In Southern Oregon:

- **Coos County:** Created an incredibly successful Treatment Transition Program that provides comprehensive support, including mentoring, mental health services, housing, and treatment.
- **Curry County:** Funds essential transitional housing, along with services for domestic violence, sex offender treatment, and more.
- **Douglas County:** Supports vital programs, including Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Domestic Violence Court, sex offender treatment, polygraph examinations, and a crucial jail treatment program, among other services.
- **Klamath County:** Provided an impressive 59,860 bed days in their transitional housing program in 2024. Additionally, the county funds sex offender and domestic violence treatment services.
- **Jackson County:** Funds sex offender treatment, peer mentoring, and operates a Transition Center that offers wraparound services, including treatment, job skills training, and more.
- **Josephine County:** Operates an exceptional in-house cognitive treatment program and funds services for sex offenders, domestic violence, and more.
- **Lake County:** Funds substance use disorder services, Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT), sex offender treatment, and essential domestic violence services.

We are invested in our officers and staff and their dedication and commitment to community corrections. We offer an opportunity to keep adults within their communities and families together. The 2024 Cost Study established the capitated rate at \$18.18 per day, significantly lower than the cost of a prison bed, which exceeds \$200 per day. Community Corrections presents a more cost-effective alternative.

In conclusion, I urge you to recognize the importance of funding community corrections at the level set in the 2024 Cost Study. With the right resources, we can hire more officers, reduce caseloads, expand services, and reduce risk. Without adequate funding, we will be forced to cut supervision, services, and sanctions, which will undermine our ability to meet standards and support our communities. Thank you for your time and consideration.