

SB 1120 testimony

I am a family physician. During my 43 years of practice I have provided substance abuse treatment to women including as Medical director at a women's treatment facility. I have cared for women with mental health issues. I have cared for many women with PTSD due to abuse they have suffered from parents, domestic partners and the system.

I support passage of SB 1120

I'm especially supporting the following sections:

- Implement and hold staff accountable to a culture of respect and dignity with a zero-tolerance policy for unprofessional, disrespectful, and dehumanizing conduct, including racist, sexist, misogynistic, homophobic, and transphobic language;

- Directs the DOC to implement a comprehensive gender-responsive, evidence-based, and trauma-informed system and protocol of discipline, including:
 - o Positive reinforcement, clear expectations, and emphases on self-care, physical and emotional health;
 - o Peer mediation and support;
 - o Affirmation over confrontation;
 - o Collaborative problem-solving;
 - o Trauma-informed discipline hearings with mental health support;
 - o Prioritization of the least punitive discipline, limiting cell-in and lockdowns; and
 - o Limitations on officers' disciplinary discretion. Requires the DOC to adopt rules to consider AICs' behavioral health diagnoses, tailor discipline accordingly, track and correct officers' use of discipline as warranted. Directs the DOC to eliminate segregation units (solitary confinement) or use them as a last resort and never for 15+ days.

Thank You for accepting my testimony.

Karen Erde, MD