



To Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

We are members of the Multnomah County Democrats' Criminal Justice Study Group, and we support SB 1120, which will greatly reform and improve policies and practices in Oregon's adult prisons.

An extensive report about Coffee Creek revealed many things that were in great need of improvement, particularly focused on the lack of gender-responsive, evidence-based and trauma-informed responses to incarcerated women. This includes criteria for staff hiring and training, among many other requirements specific to and appropriate for addressing women's needs.

SB 1120 also contains a long and very specific list of reforms to be made throughout Oregon's adult prison system. These include accountability of staff for unprofessional, disrespectful or dehumanizing behaviors and specifics about how AICs should be treated, including individuals in segregation. The bill includes support for diverse gender identities, addressing behavioral health and addiction needs, unclothed body searches, support for prisoners' children & other family members, prisoner grievances, broad access to legal materials & services, reentry needs, elimination of prison rape, data collection and reporting, and more.

This is both a very comprehensive and a very necessary bill. It will help the Department of Corrections become a system of "best practices", by providing standards and requirements. We believe it will be welcomed by those members of DOC staff who are trying every day to bring about a positive approach to corrections and would like to see uniform policies and procedures that bring about successful outcomes for staff, AICs, and the communities to which they will return.

Please pass SB 1120.

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