

Submitter: Elizabeth Sauer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1120

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

I'm writing in support of SB 1120 to implement GIPA recommendations to reform Oregon's prisons. The legislature must mandate that ODOC improve its care of incarcerated Oregonians. The 2023 Gender-Informed Practices Assessment of Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, commissioned by the state of Oregon, makes clear that CCCF is not safe for women and that the current state of the Oregon Department of Corrections endangers the lives of all people incarcerated in its twelve prisons.

In response to the GIPA report, the Governor convened an Advisory Panel comprised of advocates, CCCF program providers, formerly incarcerated individuals, and other experts. From this Advisory Panel, work groups were formed to address issue areas that were of highest priority to members. Work group members devoted hours of their expertise to creating necessary reforms to address the failings and harms identified in the GIPA report. SB 1120 incorporates the recommendations from the work groups and the GIPA report—covering the following areas and providing the comprehensive reforms necessary to address the wide-spread dysfunction within ODOC's prisons.

As a community member who cares about all Oregonians, SB 1120 is an important step towards addressing justice for all. Please support SB 1120.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Sauer