

April 2, 2025

HB 5005
CJC Funding
Supporting full funding for restorative justice programs

Co-Chairs Broadman and Evans, and members of the committee,

My name is Richard Withers and I am a volunteer with Six Rivers Dispute Resolution working with restorative justice programs in rural Hood River and Wasco Counties

I write in support of the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program and I am asking this committee to allocate \$8 million for the next biennium to this essential program.

The CJC's Restorative Justice Grant Program provides critical funds for programs across the state that center the needs of crime survivors and that keep the community safe by addressing the underlying causes of criminal behavior, by fostering real accountability for those who have caused harm, and by meaningfully tending to the trauma crime survivors experience.

It is important that this grant program remain funded and that it have stability in funding by being included in the Criminal Justice Commission's current service level budget.

**Richard L. Withers
Hood River 97031**