

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE
METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING) RESOLUTION NO. 83-405
FUNDING FOR)
OBTAINING NEW MINIMUM OR MEDIUM) Introduced by
SECURITY PRISON SPACE) Councilor Oleson

WHEREAS, Alternative programs and early release policies have reduced the length of stay and numbers of less violent inmates in Oregon's prisons; and

WHEREAS, Oregon's prisons are still overcrowded; and

WHEREAS, Prison program space has had to be converted to housing; and

WHEREAS, Prison cells designed for one inmate have had to be converted to house two inmates; and

WHEREAS, The current prison conditions represent a danger to the community safety; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Metropolitan Service District fully supports funding for new minimum or medium security prison space.

ADOPTED by the Council of the Metropolitan Service District
this 26th day of May, 1983.



Presiding Officer

JB/srb
8345B/349
05/03/83

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 83-405 SUPPORTING
THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTION
OF NEW PRISON SPACE.

Date: May 3, 1983

Presented by: Jack Bails

FACTUAL BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In the past 20 years, Oregon has not constructed a major correctional facility. Meanwhile, the following changes have caused Oregon's prisons to have to house 894 felony offenders over the designed capacity:

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1982</u>
Population	1.77 million	2.66 million
Felony Crimes	16,322	187,953
Felony Arrests	4,032	37,510
Time Served*	39.4 months	64.5 months

*The amount of time served by violent offenders has increased by 50 percent, and the proportion of violent offenders in the prison population has grown from 45 percent to 55 percent of the total.

Some Action Taken So Far

- 80 percent of all first time felony convictions result in probation.
- Early release actions by the parole board.
- Single cells have been converted to double cells.
- Day rooms, work areas, and other common use areas have been converted to house prisoners.
- Temporary leave policy from prison has been instituted.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

No recommendation.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATION

On May 10, 1983, the Regional Services Committee unanimously recommended that Resolution No. 83-405 be forwarded to the Council with no Committee recommendation.

JB/gl
8345B/349
5/11/83