



OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

NEWS ADVISORY

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LAWMAKERS MOVE BILL TO SUSPEND EXPANDED EARNED TIME; END RESENTENCING HEARINGS

Principles will hold media availability Wednesday morning

(SALEM) – The Senate Judiciary Committee gave approval Tuesday to legislation that will clarify the Legislature’s intent on HB 3508, passed in the 2009 session. Specifically, Senate Bill 1007 addresses unintended consequences by clarifying that violent criminals not be granted 10% additional earned time.

SB 1007 suspends the potential of 10 percent additional earned time for eligible offenders until July 2011 and when signed by the governor will end the resentencing hearings that require notification of crime victims.

The bill also requires an independent audit of the effectiveness of Oregon’s entire earned time program by the Secretary of State to be presented to the 2011 Legislature. The additional 10 percent earned time will continue to sunset in 2013 as written in the original bill.

In addition, the measure adds to an already existing list of crimes for which offenders cannot be granted an additional 10 percent earned time and ensures that violent criminals and sex offenders cannot receive an additional 10 percent earned time on any crime.

The measure was crafted by Senate Judiciary Chair Floyd Prozanski, Senator Joanne Verger, Senator Chip Shields, House Judiciary Chair Jeff Barker and Representative Nancy Nathanson.

Lawmakers said House Bill 3508 was passed in 2009 in order to preserve the necessary funds to maintain 24/7 highway coverage by the Oregon State Police, along with the forensic laboratories and criminal investigators at OSP; and maintain the number of beds in the Oregon Youth Authority. The 10 percent earned time provision was just one part of the measure.

The principle crafters of Senate Bill 1007 will hold a media availability tomorrow afternoon to discuss the legislation:

WHO: Senate Judiciary Chair Floyd Prozanski, House Judiciary Chair Jeff Barker, Senator Joanne Verger, Representative Nancy Nathanson

WHERE: Capitol Press Room (Room 43), Oregon State Capitol, Salem

WHEN: Wednesday, February 10, 2010, 12:30 PM

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