SENATE JUDICIARY
EXHIBIT NO. 2
DATE 2/19/13
BILL NO. HB 68

TO: Judiciary Committee
FR: Rep. Margie MacDonald
DT: 16 January 2013
RE: Costs and savings from restorative justice and reentry investments in the Montana Department of Corrections programs and in local community courts.

Corrections, particularly incarceration, is a major part of what the state of Montana spends its money on.

Montana General Fund (House Bill 2) budget (in millions):

- Public Education $1,434.6 (40.1%)
- Education $404.9 (11.3%)
- Human Services $909.7 (25.4%)
- **Corrections $369.1 (10.3%)**
- Other Agencies $457.9 (12.8%)

TOTAL $3,576.2

(Montana 3-year recidivism rate: 39% for Montana State Prison)

Montana FY 2010 offender costs *per day/year by facility*:

ADULT:
Montana State Prison: $94.03 per day / $34,321per year
MT Women's Prison: $116.45 / $42,504

Boot Camp: $99.62 / $36,361

Pre-release (Female): $69.17/ $25,247
Pre-release (Male): $59.36/ $21,666

Adult ISP: $8.85/ $3,230
Adult Probation & Parole: $5.12/ $1,869

YOUTH:
Riverside: $430.66 *per day* / $157,191 *per year*
Pine Hills: $283.84 / $103,430

Juvenile Parole: $81.61 / $29,788

Flathead County Center for Restorative Justice - Focuses on Youth:

- Arrest information from the State of Montana suggests that approximately 46% of youth charged with a crime go on to commit another offense. In contrast, youth who completed the [Flathead County] Center for Restorative Youth Justice (CRYJ) programming had a 13% recidivism rate. (CRYJ works with more than 260 youth and 300 victims every year.)

Bootcamp Victim Impact Panel

- The victim impact panel reduced the re-offense rate in half. *Those who went through the victim impact panel experience had a less than 6% re-offend; compared to double that for the the Dept. of Corrections.*
- The boot camp use of victim impact panels found that the emotional connection made through these intervention opens the door to making change with the young people sentenced to the camp.

Costs involved in Victim Impact Panels:

- *Training facilitators*
- *Preparing offenders for engagement with victims including curriculum.*
- *Travel and mileage reimbursements for volunteers.*
- *A public awareness campaign would help DOC reach out to victims who wish to participate as victim impact panel speakers, prepare and train them.*
- *Previous funding: Temporary MBCC grants 2000-2004 grants*

Re-Entry Savings

Oklahoma:

The State of Oklahoma budgeted $1million/year on its re-entry program. The focus is on targeting people in prison who are there largely as a result of untreated mental illness.

Result: The 3-year recidivism rate in the State of Oklahoma dropped to **25.2% compared to 42.3% rate** for a comparable prison population.

Where does the (re-entry) money go?

Money is used for

- Case management, counseling and life-management services
- Assistance to find felon-friendly housing, help with a deposit and some of the first year rent.
- Enrolling them in SS Disability and Medicaid prior to release, so they do not lose prescriptions.

(10% + of those coming out of prison and jail are homeless, for those with mental illness, the rates are even higher - about 20%.

As we heard, typically inmates receive $100 and a bus ticket and a ride to the bus station.

New York and New Jersey (Vera Institute)

Incidence of violent crime declined 30% in New York and 19% in New Jersey from 1999-2009. Prison population decreased by 18% in both NY and NJ, while declining

only 5% nationwide over the same period. Crime rates went down in tandem with the implementation of reforms addressing sentencing reform and re-entry.

Re-entry examples:

MISSOURI:
Recidivism has decreased from 46% in FY 2004 to 36.4% in FY 2009 due to evidence based supervision for parolees that includes the use of a risk assessment tool to set supervision levels and community-based sanctions in lieu of prison for technical violations for parole.

TEXAS:
2008-2009 biennium: Invested $240 million to expand re-entry, cut parole caseloads, limit the length of time on parole for drug and property crimes, outpatient treatment, and fund local corrections agencies. SAVED $443 million and also saved $500 million on new prisons. Texas is now increasing its investment in re-entry.

OREGON:
1999-2004 32% decline in recidivism.By 2004 the rate was the lowest in the country 22.8% Assessing risk and needs; case management and transition planning in prison; graduated non-prison sanctions for violations of parole.

KANSAS:
Upfront in re-entry reduced the number of violators sent to prison and allowed the state to reinvest in successful community supervision programs.