

A Message from Secretary Tim Lang

Yesterday afternoon, Governor Ferguson signed the final budget for Washington state. The budget reflects many hard decisions made by the Washington Legislature in addressing a projected \$16 billion budget shortfall. These decisions will impact how every state agency operates and provides services to Washingtonians.

This document provides an overview of the funding DOC has received along with the cuts that have occurred, along with a summary of legislation affecting our work. You can read the final budget for the [entire state budget online](#) once it is posted.

As mentioned in previous messages, the enacted budget requires facility closures and staffing reductions. There is no way around it, these closures and reductions will impact some employees in a very direct way. Planning already is underway to try to minimize the impacts as much as possible and to find other employment opportunities within the Department for those directly affected.

Despite the challenging budget situation faced by the state, we are fortunate that the governor and legislature understand the importance of the work done at DOC. We were spared some of the more significant reductions required of other agencies. And the budget does include a few brighter spots:

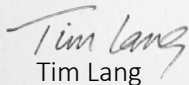
- Funding for salary increases for represented and non-represented employees.
- Funding to cover custody staff out on vacation, sick leave, or mandatory training.
- Funding to continue the Washington Way contract.
- Funding for the expansion of opioid treatment.

I also want to recognize the hard work done to pass several key policy initiatives this session, including our agency request legislation, HB 1119, that removes the progress component to allow Community Corrections Officers to focus on higher risk individuals on supervision in the community; SSB 5388 that right sizes behavioral health oversight in our prison facilities by the Department of Health; and ESSB 5219, that aligns all partial confinement programs to 18 months, expands the definition of parent in the Community Parenting Alternative Program, and requires substance use disorder evaluation and treatment for all partial confinement programs.

I remain committed to our mission and look forward to supporting our staff as we navigate this challenging budget situation together. This requires us to be more efficient while still ensuring we operate a safe and humane corrections system and improve public safety by positively changing lives.

I will continue communicating with our staff, the public, incarcerated individuals and our stakeholders, tribal leaders, and partners as we know more about these impacts.

Sincerely,



Tim Lang



OUR STRATEGIC ANCHORS

Mission

Improving safety by positively changing lives.

Vision

Working together for safer communities.

Our Commitment

To operate a safe and humane corrections system and partner with others to transform lives for a better Washington.

Our Values

Cultivate an Environment of Integrity & Trust

Respectful & Inclusive Interactions

People's Safety

Positivity in Words & Actions

Supporting People's Success

Final Budget & Policy Overview

2025-27 Operating Budget (ESSB 5167), Capital Budget (SSB 5195) and Priority Policy Bills Impacting DOC

All Staff

General Wage Salary Increases:

- **Non-Represented Employees**
 - 3% salary increase effective July 2025
 - 2% salary increase effective July 2026
- **Collective Bargaining Agreements for Teamsters**
 - 5.89% salary increase effective July 2025
 - 4.07% salary increase effective July 2026
- **Collective Bargaining Agreements for WFSE**
 - 4.62% salary increase effective July 2025
 - 6.02% salary increase effective July 2026

(Note: Teamsters and WFSE had targeted job class increases above those stated)

Management Reduction: \$1.8M reduction.



Prisons

Body Scanners: \$9.8M to continue operating the body scanner projects at Washington Corrections Center (WCC) and Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW).

Custody Staff, Health Care Delivery: \$5.8M for medical transport teams at Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC), Stafford Creek Corrections Center (SCCC), and the Washington State Penitentiary (WSP).

Custody Staffing Relief: \$9.5M for coverage of custody staff taking vacation, sick leave, or mandatory training absences.

Amend Contract: \$1M to continue the Washington Way contract.

Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women (MCCCW) Closure and Unit L Opening at WCCW: \$16.4M reduction to close MCCCW and open a unit at WCCW.

Radio System Replacement: \$11M to replace radios at Airway Heights, Cedar Creek, Clallam Bay, WCC, and WCCW.

ESHB 1468 – Incarcerated Individual Betterment Fund (IIBF): \$5M one-time reduction to IIBF to fund DOC's base budget. This bill requires that, beginning July 1, 2025, any revenue sources previously deposited in the IIBF as well as fund balances must be transferred into the newly created Institutional Welfare Account.

ESSB 5029 – Concerning Transportation of Individuals Released or Discharged from DOC Custody: This bill removes the requirement that the public transportation provided by DOC at the expiration of a person's sentence be the least expensive method. This requires public transportation provided by DOC to be limited to a location within the state, except in cases of interstate compact releases or releases to out-of-state detainees (i.e., supervision or incarceration in another state). This allows the superintendent the right to review and approve or deny any transportation expenses. It also requires DOC to make a reasonable effort to coordinate the timing of the individual's release from DOC custody, including the timing of transportation, if DOC has made arrangements with a partnering nonprofit organization that will support the individual's reentry into the community. It requires DOC to submit an annual report regarding the numbers of individuals provided transportation where the cost of transportation provided exceeded \$100, the method of transportation used, and if DOC made arrangements with a partnering nonprofit organization to coordinate the timing of the individual's release.



DOC staff, Governor Ferguson, and others at the bill signing ceremony for HB 1119

Stafford Creek Booth Security: \$1.7M to provide staffing to secure the booth entrance to SCCC on behalf of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR).

Community Corrections Division

HB 1119 – DOC Agency Request Legislation, Supervision Compliance Credit Bill: \$434K reduction to change the supervision compliance credit awarding process, making it more efficient and equitable. It removes the progress component to allow Community Corrections Officers to focus on higher risk individuals in the community. It also excludes all sentencing alternatives and those supervised on a governor's commutation from receiving credit. It requires DOC to make policies for earning supervision compliance credit available on the DOC website.



DOC staff, Governor Ferguson, and others at the bill signing ceremony for HB 1119

ESSB 5219 – Concerning Partial Confinement Eligibility and Alignment: \$327K savings aligns partial confinement timeframes to 18 months for Graduated Reentry (GRE), Community Parenting Alternative (CPA), and Reentry Centers. The savings recognize a reduction in total confinement prison beds based on the implementation of the bill. The definition of parent is expanded for the CPA program to include caregivers and/or those expected to take over the duties of a parent to better represent the parental relationships seen in this population. Requires substance use disorder (SUD) evaluation and treatment requirements for all partial confinement programs and modifies the evaluation process to better utilize existing resources.



DOC staff, Governor Ferguson, and others at the bill signing ceremony for ESSB 5219

iCoach Navigators: \$3.6M reduction in iCoach navigator positions who work with incarcerated individuals before release.

Community Corrections Program Managers: \$4.2M reduction of community corrections program manager positions.

Community Supervision Staffing: \$4.7M reduction, limiting the increase in phased staffing to the 24 funding through June 2025.

E2SHB 1131 – Concerning Clemency and Pardon: Expands and modifies the membership, compensation, and training requirements for the Clemency and Pardons Board. Requires DOC to supervise a person granted conditional commutation if community custody is a condition of the commutation, which is the current practice.

SHB 1133 – Concerning Sexually Violent Predators: Allows the prosecuting attorney and Attorney General to require the production of records and execute civil investigative demands relevant to the investigation of whether an individual should be civilly committed. It also prohibits individuals from receiving supervision compliance credits if an individual is being supervised on a less restrictive alternative, as well as a DOC concurrent cause.

HB 1457 – Requiring Electronic Monitoring of Sexually Violent Predators Granted Conditional Release: Requires courts to enforce electronic monitoring for individuals who are given a less restrictive alternative.

SHB 1811 – Enhancing Crisis Response Services Through Co-Response

Integration and Support: Adds individuals engaged in co-response services to the list of first responders who may not be compelled to testify about their communications with recipients of peer support services. Makes changes to who qualifies as a first responder in the Workers' Compensation program regarding public health emergencies and communicable diseases.



Reentry Division

Reentry Center Proposed Closures:

- **Ahtanum View: \$6.1M reduction**, warm closure of state-operated facility; this will decrease capacity by 101 beds.
- **Bishop Lewis: \$4M reduction**, vendor-operated facility closed on Nov. 17, 2023; this decreased capacity by 47 beds.
- **Peninsula: \$4.9M reduction**, warm closure effective Oct. 1, 2025; this will decrease capacity by 73 beds.
- **Tri-Cities: \$3.4M reduction**, warm closure effective October 1, 2025; this will decrease capacity by 40 beds.

Reentry Center Conversions:

- **Progress House (6th Ave Reentry): \$4.6M** for operation and conversion of the 90-bed facility from a vendor-operated facility to a state-owned and operated facility.
- **Brownstone: \$4.6M** for the operation and conversion of the 84-bed facility from a contracted facility to a state-operated facility.
- **Eleanor Chase: \$2.7M** for the operation and conversion of the 55-bed facility from a contracted facility to a state-operated facility.

Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI) Program: \$3.8M reduction.

GRE Housing Voucher Program Underspend: \$800K reduction.

Reentry Administrator Positions: \$324K reduction.

SHB 1271 – Permitting Early Deployment of State Fire Service Resources: Modifies the mobilization of fire crews to include preparing for emergency or disaster situations and includes mobilization if it is expected to exceed the capabilities of local resources.

SB 5077 – Concerning Expansion of Voter Registration Services by Government Agencies: The Governor will decide in consultation with the Secretary of State (SOS) which additional local, state, federal, and tribal agencies may offer automatic voter registration. If DOC is chosen to provide voter registration services, county auditors must process a voter registration application transmitted by DOC as an application to sign up to register to vote. The person's voter registration will be classified as pending until the person is eligible to vote, and prohibits a voter registration acknowledgment notice from being sent before receiving notice from DOC that the person is released from or transferred to partial confinement from total confinement under the jurisdiction of DOC.



DOC staff, Governor Ferguson, and others at the bill signing ceremony for SSB 5139

SSB 5139 – Reentry Council Members: \$6K to cover the overtime costs of two correctional officers to supervise two incarcerated individuals who will participate in reentry council meetings. The bill adds representatives from the Health Care Authority, Department of Social and Health Services, and the Employment Security Department, as well as two community members who are currently incarcerated, one of whom must be incarcerated in a men's corrections facility and one who must be incarcerated in a women's corrections facility. The bill adds two persons who are either a survivor or victim of a crime, one of whom does not identify as female and one who does not identify as male.

SB 5785 – Amending the Washington College Grant and College Bound Scholarship: Modifies eligibility for the maximum Washington College Grant (WCG) award up to 60% of the median family income, beginning in academic year 2025-26. The bill changes the maximum WCG for apprenticeships award to 50% of the maximum award for students attending public two-year institutions, beginning in academic year 2025-26. The bill also eliminates the maximum WCG award for students attending two-year and four-year private for-profit institutions, beginning in academic year 2025-26, and limits usage of a College Bound Scholarship award to within six years of receipt.

Correctional Industries

CI Revolving Fund: \$5M one-time fund swap in FY26 from the Correctional Industries Account to offset General Fund-State expenditures.

EHB 1185 – Concerning Membership on the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee: Increases the voting members of the Correctional Industries Advisory Committee from 9 to 11. The DOC Secretary will appoint nine members, and two members appointed by the governor must be from underrepresented populations with direct lived experience, as defined in the Nothing About Us Without Us Act. The participating members with direct lived experience may not be currently incarcerated in total confinement.



DOC staff, Governor Ferguson, and others at the bill signing ceremony for EHB 1185

SSB 5444 – Concerning Special License Plates and Personalized License Plates: Authorizes up to 13 new special license plates. Establishes a moratorium on any additional special license plates beyond the ones authorized in the legislation until Jan. 1, 2029. Requires the Department of Licensing to establish a workgroup to conduct a comprehensive review of current provisions associated with special license plates

Health Services

Statewide Electronic Health Records: \$2.5M to continue efforts toward a statewide solution in FY26.

Opioid Treatment Expansion: \$3.6M to provide prescription medications for opioid use disorder (OUD). This funding maintains medical treatment for OUD, reduces mortality rates, increases participation in other SUD treatments, and reduces recidivism rates. This funding will provide enough medication to treat incarcerated individuals who have OUD and who were receiving treatment before entering DOC custody.

1115 Waiver Cost Offset: \$3.9M reduction to reflect DOC's participation in the Medicaid health care 90-day pre-release program. The federal Centers for Medicaid Services has awarded a waiver to the state that allows previously ineligible medical services to be provided to incarcerated individuals who are eligible for Medicaid coverage upon their release.

2SHB 1359 – Reviewing Laws Related to Criminal Insanity and Competency to Stand Trial: Establishes a task force with members from various sectors, including the legislature, social and health services, DOC, healthcare, public defense, law enforcement, and groups representing victims, mental health, and individuals with lived experience in the forensic mental health system to review laws related to criminal insanity and competency to stand trial.

SB 5093 – Pregnancy Loss Bill: \$48K to provide a report to the Department of Health identifying perinatal loss, stillbirth, and miscarriages. This covers the cost to make the necessary changes to the offender management network information (OMNI) system to capture this data. The bill also repeals the crime of concealing birth.

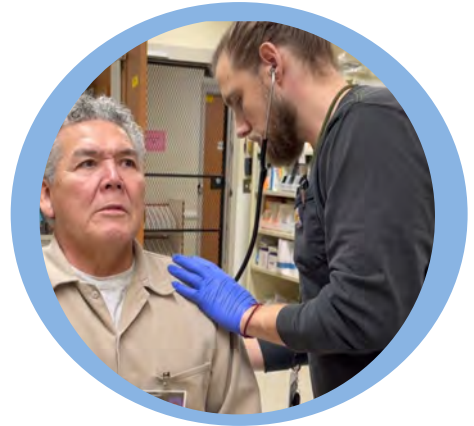
SSB 5182 – Concerning Programs and Services for Incarcerated Parents at DOC: Removes language specifying that nothing requires DOC to establish or provide funding for midwifery or doula services. This allows DOC to contract with a nonprofit organization or partner with volunteers to deliver midwifery or doula services to incarcerated individuals.

SSB 5388 – DOC Behavioral Health Certification Bill: \$1.5M to establish and adopt standards for behavioral health services provided in correctional facilities and for DOC to reimburse the Department of Health for the cost of inspections and technical assistance in the ensuing biennium.

Records/Sentencing

Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board: \$348K for board member salary increases.

ESHB 1149 – Preventing Cruelty to Animals: Expands the crimes of animal cruelty and animal fighting. Increases the penalties from civil to a misdemeanor for first violation, gross misdemeanor for second violation, and class C felony for third and subsequent violations. Adds elements to animal cruelty in the second degree when a person willfully instigates, engages in, or in any way furthers any act of animal cruelty to any animal.



DOC staff, Governor Ferguson, and others at the bill signing ceremony for SSB 5388

SHB 1205 – Prohibiting the Knowing Distribution of a Forged Digital Likeness: Expands the conduct that constitutes criminal impersonation in the second degree, which is a gross misdemeanor, to include the knowing distribution of a forged digital likeness.

ESHB 1815 – Concerning Prison Riot Offenses: Removes juvenile facilities, including DCYF and local county juvenile facilities, from the definition of correctional facilities for prison riot offenses. Requires resentencing for convictions of prison riot offenses that occurred at DCYF juvenile facilities and juvenile county facilities.

ESSB 5202 – Ensuring the Efficacy of Judicial Orders as Harm Reduction Tools That Increase the Safety of Survivors of Abuse and Support Law Enforcement in Their Efforts to Enforce the Law: Amends provisions relating to civil protection orders. Provides that a person commits the crime of unlawful possession of a firearm in the first degree if the person owns, accesses, has in their custody, control, or possession, or receives an untraceable or undetectable firearm while subject to a qualifying protection order, no-contact order, or restraining order.

SSB 5323 – Theft from First Responders: \$19K expanding the conduct that constitutes possession of stolen property and theft in the first degree. This funding covers the cost to make the necessary changes to the OMNI system.

Language Access

E2SHB 1174 – Concerning Court Interpreters: Adds requirements governing credentialing court interpreters, revises provisions of appointments of court interpreters, revises provisions of payment of interpreter costs, and requires courts to submit language access plans to the administrative office of the courts every two years.

2025-2027 Capital Budget (SSB 5195)

Energy Audits and Plan: \$577K for energy audits for WCCW Z building and SCCC F Housing to be completed by June 1, 2028, and to prepare a climate change resilience plan.

2025-27 Capital Budget: \$155M, including \$66M in new project appropriations and \$89M in re-appropriations.

- New appropriation includes the highest DOC priority preservation and programmatic project requests:
 - MCC: SOU and TRU – domestic water and HVAC piping system, **\$13.9M**
 - MCC: WSR perimeter wall renovation, **\$3.7M**
 - McNeil Island transport barge replacement, **\$6.1M**
 - SW: fire alarm systems stabilization project, **\$6.1M**
 - SW: IMU recreation yard improvement, **\$3.6M**
 - SW: perimeter fence detection stabilization project, **\$6.4M**
 - SW: security electronics renewal and adaptation, **\$4.8M**
 - WCCW: MSC living unit bathroom renovations, **\$8.4M**
- Also includes:
 - McNeil Island parcel analysis, **\$522K**
 - Minor works, **\$6M**
 - WCCW roof replacements, **\$6.7M**

2SHB 1409 – Concerning the Clean Fuels Program (CFP): Amends the carbon intensity reduction requirements for transportation fuels under CFP. Establishes penalties and other enforcement powers specific to CFP program requirements and eliminates clean air act criminal and civil penalties for violations of the CFP.

2SHB 1462 – Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with Hydrofluorocarbons: Prohibits selling or distributing refrigerants with global warming potentials with a limit of 1500 beginning Jan. 1, 2030, and a limit of 750 beginning Jan. 1, 2033.

2SHB 1497 – Improving Outcomes Associated with Waste Material Management Systems: Seeks to improve waste management practices in the state, focusing on organics recycling and contamination reduction. Establishes and amends various requirements and programs related to food waste and wasted food, organic materials management, and solid waste collection and disposal.

SSB 5033 – Concerning Sampling or Testing of Biosolids for PFAS Chemicals: Requires the Department of Ecology to establish perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) chemicals sampling or testing requirements for certain biosolids by July 1, 2028. Requires the Department of Ecology to complete an analysis of the levels of PFAS chemicals in certain biosolids by July 1, 2029.

SB 5036 – Strengthening Washington’s Leadership and Accountability on Climate Policy by Transitioning to Annual Reporting of Statewide Emissions Data: Requires the Departments of Ecology and Commerce to annually report greenhouse gas emissions from the preceding year, rather than biennially report greenhouse gas emissions from the preceding two years.