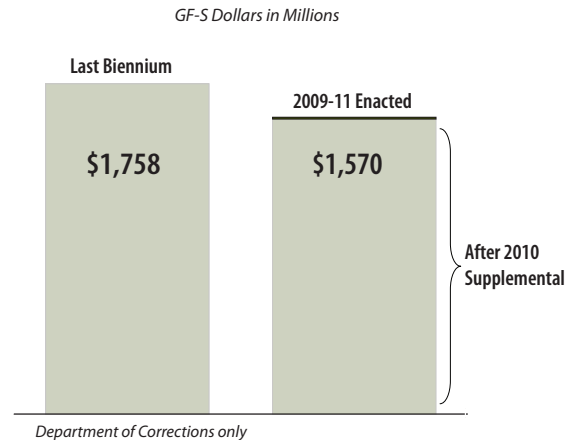


PUBLIC SAFETY

Citizens depend on government to keep them and their property safe. When neighborhoods are safe, residents thrive and communities grow, which contributes both to our quality of life and the vitality of the economy. For Governor Gregoire, no job is more vital than protecting Washingtonians from crime and criminals, even as the cost of locking up felons continues to rise dramatically while revenue shrinks. To meet that challenge, the Governor believes we must make smarter, more skillful use of the prison facilities we have — and do it without reducing offender sentences.



To look for ways to save money, the Legislature this year directed the Office of Financial Management to contract with a consultant to recommend how to reduce the number of beds in the adult and juvenile corrections systems. The study consultant was instructed to consider construction costs, economic impacts on communities and effects on prison staff. The Governor has carefully considered these recommendations and proposes to take actions that will save taxpayers \$65 million over the next four years while maintaining public safety. Those recommendations are included below.

Actions

Eliminate 25 staff positions in the Washington State Patrol, including criminal records analysts, fire protection preparedness specialists and crime lab scientists. No trooper jobs will be affected. (*\$3.8 million General Fund-State*)

Eliminate ‘tolling’ for those in prehearing confinement on a violation and for those who have been sanctioned to time in jail for a violation. This means that a violator’s community supervision sentence will run continuously regardless of whether the violator is incarcerated at any time during the sentence or in prehearing confinement. (*\$1.2 million GF-S*)

Reduce excess capacity in the state prison system. The Department of Corrections will use its most efficient prison beds, which will allow the closure of units and entire facilities. No offenders will be set free prior to the earned release date while reductions are made. (*\$8.7 million GF-S*)

Reduce offender re-entry funding, with the exception of funding for evidence-based and promising programs. (*\$3.5 million GF-S*)

Reduce funding to juvenile courts by 10 percent in non-evidence based, non-sex offender disposition alternative programs. (*\$2.5 million GF-S*)

Reduce the number of juveniles detained in state institutions. The Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration in the Department of Social and Health Services will close cottages in juvenile institutions at Naselle Youth Camp, Maple Lane School and Green Hill School by moving more

youth into community-based secure facilities and closer to their families, which will assist in successful re-entry upon completion of their sentences. (*\$2.4 million GF-S*)

Reduce the number of Basic Law Enforcement Academy classes because law enforcement agencies are not hiring due to the recession. The Criminal Justice Training Commission is funded for 13 classes in Fiscal Year 2010 and 16 classes in Fiscal Year 2011. (*\$1.6 million GF-S*)

Reduce the prison population for non-violent offenders who are custodial parents of minor children, which will allow the Department of Corrections to close a prison unit at a women's facility. (*\$225,000 GF-S*)

Merge the Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board with the Department of Corrections, without changing the functions of the board. (*\$630,000 GF-S*)

Addition

Add three Neighborhood Partnership Officers who work with local law enforcement agencies to track down gang members, sex offenders and other dangerous felons. (*\$301,000 GF-S*)