

Josephine (JO) County (CO) Justice System (JS) & Public Safety Services (PSS)

JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services¹⁻²

The 2012 expiration of federal funding for services resulted in two JO CO proposed levies as a solution. They both failed. *“Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of PSS?”*

AOC (Association of Oregon Counties) Task Force On Effective And Cost-Efficient Service Provision³

Refinement of SB 77 procedure regarding determination of county inability to meet minimally adequate public safety. Senate Bill 77 (2009) established the process to declare a public safety services emergency in a fiscally distressed county. (The bill has been codified at ORS 203.095 and 203.100). In the view of the **County Services Planning Council Subcommittee**, the law does not provide a complete process that will result in recovery of the county.

Enrolled Oregon House Bill 4176

Relating to counties in **fiscal distress**; creating new provisions; amending ORS 203.095 and 203.100; repealing ORS 203.095 and 203.100; appropriating money; limiting expenditures; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas counties that received federal payments pursuant to the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-393) are experiencing significant budget shortfalls that compromise public health and safety, undermine funding for county roads and exacerbate job losses; and

Whereas it is in the best interest of the state to provide counties with a tool that would facilitate a collaborative process to identify solutions and mitigate the impact of the loss of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 funds.

Enrolled Oregon House Bill 4176 (2012)

SECTION 1. ORS 203.095 (1)(a)

The governing body of a county may seek a **declaration of a fiscal emergency** by requesting in writing that the Governor review and analyze state-required services provided by the county if: (A) The governing body of the county believes that the **county is in a state of fiscal distress** that **compromises the county’s ability to provide a minimally adequate level**, currently or within the next fiscal year, of any service that a county is required to provide by state law; . . .

(2) When a request for review of state-required services is made under sub-section (1) of this section, the Governor shall: (a) Consult with the governing body of the county and other appropriate county officials, with labor organizations representing county employees and with other stakeholders to gather information regarding the **current level of state-required services** provided by the county; and (b) Review and analyze state-required services provided in the county to determine whether the county is providing a **minimally adequate level of state-required services**. . .

SECTION 1. ORS 203.095(3) If the Governor finds that the county is providing, or within the next fiscal year will be providing, a **less than minimally adequate level of state-required services**, the Governor shall declare a **fiscal emergency** for the county. . . .

SECTION 1. ORS 203.095(4) If the Governor issues the declaration of a **fiscal emergency** under subsection (3) of this section, the Governor shall establish a **fiscal assistance board**, as described in ORS 203.100, for the distressed county.

SECTION 1. ORS 203.095(5) . . . The board shall consider and adopt a **recovery plan designed to restore or sustain minimally adequate state-required services**. . . .’

Minimally Adequate Public Safety Services Standards

SECTION 1. ORS 203.095(6)

. . . When the fiscal assistance board concludes that **minimally adequate state-required services have been restored or sustained** in the **fiscally distressed county**, the board shall recommend that Governor **terminate the fiscal emergency**.

SECTION 1. ORS 203.095(9) was eliminated from HB 4176.

“The commission shall establish, by rule, **public safety services guidelines by which to identify the minimally adequate level at which public safety services must be delivered in a county**. In establishing the **guidelines**, the commission shall seek broad input from the governing body of the county, the sheriff, the district attorney, judges and other appropriate county officials, labor organizations representing county employees, other public safety stakeholders and members of the public, and take into consideration the population density, geographic characteristics, historical crime rates and other relevant factors in Oregon counties. **The guidelines must provide a basis for analyzing whether the county provides a minimally adequate level of public safety services** in the areas of . . .”

Want more information? Contact a member of the *Exploratory Committee*.

1. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS). July 9, 2013. *Justice System Exploratory Committee*. Hugo, OR.

2. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Government Needs Support*. Hugo, OR.

3. AOC (Association of Oregon Counties). October 1, 2010. Association of Oregon Counties Task Force On Effective And Cost-Efficient Service Provision. Rep. Nancy Nathanson, Chair.

Exploratory Committee's Mission

Mission An independent Justice System and Public Safety Services Exploratory Committee (*Exploratory Committee*) to investigate the JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) issue was formed under the leadership of the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society (HNA&HS).

Big picture ideas for the exploratory effort include the following.

1. Identifying the JS&PSS issue.
2. Identifying the JS&PSS sub-issues for research and analysis.
3. Identifying a range in level of services
4. Identifying a range of cost for services.
5. Identifying revenues for services.

The ultimate goal is an adequate justice system and public safety services. Is it possible to have a higher level of service for a lower cost? The purpose of the *Exploratory Committee* is to gather information adequate enough to understand the JS&PSS issues. This includes educational outreach efforts.

The *Exploratory Committee's* purpose is limited to investigating and researching the JS&PSS issues. It will not make evaluations of right or wrong, nor make recommendations on how to vote.

The contents of this brochure are expressions of the opinions and beliefs of those that contribute based on their thoughts and experiences. Hopefully, their efforts will assist the public toward informed decision-making.

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Justice System Exploratory Committee

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/justicesystemexploratorycommittee.htm>

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

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OREGON HOUSE BILL 4176 (2012)

Brochure III.E.1.7.2
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series

Standards & Authorities

- Declaration of a Fiscal Emergency
- County in a State of Fiscal Distress
- Compromises the County's Ability to Provide a Minimally Adequate Level
 - Current Level of State-Required Services
 - Minimally Adequate Level of State-required Services
 - Less than Minimally Adequate Level of State-required Services
 - Fiscal Assistance Board
- Recovery Plan Designed to Restore or Sustain Minimally Adequate State-Required Services



Very Draft August 2, 2013

Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee